

AC-44944

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WEST BROMWICH



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
1965

HUGH BRYANT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health
Director of Welfare Services

CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES, 1965

(as at 31st December)

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:	Councillor R.J. Ashby, F.S.M.C.
Deputy Chairman:	Councillor D.G. Booton

The Mayor :	Councillor J.W. Hubbard, J.P.
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Alderman J. D. Davies

Alderman A. Green

Alderman Mrs. L. Peckover

Councillor Mrs. L. Brettell

Councillor D.W. Foster

Councillor M.J. Hassall

Councillor W.G.F. Jenkins

Councillor R.M. Lowe

Councillor G. Smith

Councillor Mrs. M. M. Taylor

Councillor R. Woodhall

Co-opted Members

J.O. Robins, F.M.A., F.I.A.C., M.R.S.H.

D. Saklatvala, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

F.R. Smith, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., J.P.

HYGIENE AND CLEANSING COMMITTEE

Chairman:	Alderman A. Green
Deputy Chairman:	Councillor J.C.R. Ashby, F.B.O.A.

Alderman F. Fisher, J.P.

Councillor S.J. Bryant

Councillor J.A. Dicken

Councillor C.R. James

Councillor F.G. Phillips

Councillor R. Woodhall

WELFARE COMMITTEE

Chairman:	Alderman J.D. Davies
Deputy Chairman:	Councillor J. Evans

Alderman A Green

Alderman Mrs. L. Peckover

Councillor Mrs. L. Brettell

Councillor D.W. Foster

Councillor W.H.J. Manifold

Councillor Mrs. M. M. Taylor

Co-opted Members :

Mrs. A. Cross

Mrs. R.M. Powell

Mrs. J. Scott

Mrs. I. Watkins

Mr. J. Wenlock

ADVISORY MEMBERS FOR SONS OF REST

Mr. J.T. Allibone
Mr. J. Birch
Mr. G. Broadhead
Mr. W. Carlisle
Mr. G. Dodge
Mr. B. Greenway
Mr. G.M. Jones
Mr. F.H. Worker

PRINCIPAL STAFF

(as at 31st December 1965)

HEALTH AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health and
Director of Welfare Services

Dr. H.O.M. Bryant
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health
and Deputy Director of Welfare
Services

Margaret A. Shields
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers of
Health

Esther T. Riley, M.B., Ch.B.
Ailine W. Bradley,
M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., D.P.H.
(Died – 20th. January 1966)

Chest Physician (part-time)

C.W.D. Cole, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Chief Welfare Services Officer

A. Shaw

Chief Clerk

M.E. Powell, D.P.A.

Chief Nursing Officer

Eleanor A. Roberts, S.R.N.
S.C.M., H.V. Certificate.

Principal Dental Officer
(part-time)

J.B.C. Cuzner, L.D.S.
(who is the Principal School
Dental Officer)

Chief Chiropodist

Jean Horton, M. Ch. S.

Home Help Organiser

J. Mary Day, M.I.H.H.O.

The Ambulance Officer is the General Manager of the Corporation Transport Department. Mr. S. Jobling, M. Inst. T.

Details of the staff establishments are given in the various sections of the report. There were 16 members of the administrative and clerical staff.

OUTSIDE ESTABLISHMENTS

(as at 31st December, 1965)

HEALTH

Infant Welfare Centres

Boulton Road
Friar Park Road
Whitehall Road
Tanhouse Avenue
Bratt Street
Hill Top
Hill Lane
Jervoise Lane
Redwood Road
20 Heath Lane

Nurses Centre

MENTAL HEALTH

Training Centre

'The Crest'
Churchfields,
West Bromwich.

Supervisor: Miss. D. Blake

Home for Elderly Senile Persons

'Warstone House'
Salters Lane,
West Bromwich.

Chief Male Nurse:
Mr. K. Racz, R.N.M.S., S.R.N.

WELFARE

Homes for the Elderly:

'Beech Holme',
53, Beeches Road,
West Bromwich.

Superintendent and Matron:
Mr. and Mrs. J. Brown

'The Hawthorns'
Green Lane,
Great Barr, Birmingham, 22a.

Matron:
Mrs. L. Jenkins

'Lyndon House'
Scott Street,
West Bromwich.

Superintendent and Matron :
Mr. and Mrs. F. Ashby

'Greenside House'
Greenside Way,
Yew Tree Estate, Walsall.

Superintendent and Matron :
Mr. and Mrs. E. Tunstall

'The Willows'
34, Bridge Street,
West Bromwich.

Matron :
Mrs. E.M. Digby

66, Clarkes Lane,
West Bromwich.

Matron :
Mrs. E. Pawlett.

'Bromford House'
Moor Street,
West Bromwich.

Matron and Superintendent :
Mr. and Mrs. J.J. McHattie

SOCIAL CENTRE

Walsall Street
West Bromwich.

Senior Craft Instructor :
Miss. J. Doleman

FOREWORD

This is my ninth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health to the Borough and will be the last one covering the original Borough before amalgamation with neighbouring areas.

As in previous years, the Report contains information about those services which are the responsibility of the Council under National Health Services and National Assistance Acts, a report on the sanitary circumstances prepared by the Chief Public Health Inspector, and information on a number of other services administered by the Health Department.

Statistics

The estimated population continued to rise but the number of births was greater than the estimated rise of population within the boundaries.

The total number of births fell below the figure for 1964 but the birth rate continues to be above the national average.

The number of deaths of residents was below that for 1964 and the crude death rate is below that for England and Wales. If however the death rate is corrected to allow for the differences in age structure of the population, the death rate is above that for England and Wales.

Deaths from cancer show a decline, particularly in cancer of stomach, lungs and bronchus but it is unsafe to draw conclusions from one year's experience.

The infant mortality is the same as for England and Wales.

Local Health Services

During the year, 68% of the births took place in hospitals and there was a rise in the number of mothers discharged before the 7th day, from 62% of those confined in hospital during 1964, to 74% during 1965.

West Bromwich is an area with pressure on housing and a substantial number of immigrants from overseas. Accordingly many are living in conditions in which the confinement of an expectant mother is difficult. A particular problem is that of women in their fourth or subsequent pregnancies whose duties at home prevent their admission to hospital. This group has a higher risk of complications but often demands of the family prevent such mothers from going into

hospital and a close liaison exists between the hospital and the local authority with regard to the admissions and discharges of such mothers. There is still a greater demand for admission to hospital than can be satisfied by the existing hospital accommodation.

The infant welfare clinics continue to be well used although there has been a slight fall in the number of attendances during the year. There is a shortage of Health Visitors, with only 9 posts out of 19 filled during the year and no satisfactory students coming forward for training. This means that it is not possible to provide the help and advice desirable to many young mothers and as Health Visitors must be fully trained nurses possessing the first part of the examination set by the Central Midwives Board, there is obviously only a limited field for recruitment.

The District Nursing service is fully staffed but there has been a rise in the number of visits paid and it is clear that this service is in greater demand due to the work of caring for elderly patients sick at home.

A considerable number of children are not fully protected by vaccination and immunisation and the lack of Health Visitors means that this matter is perhaps not brought to the attention of young mothers as often as is desirable.

The Chiropody Service has once again increased, there being 50% more treatments in 1965 than the previous year. Even so, it is certain that there is a greater demand for chiropody treatment amongst elderly patients than can be dealt with by the existing service.

The Home Help Service has functioned satisfactorily. At one period during the year there was considerable pressure.

A new building to replace the Crest as a Junior Training Centre is to be opened in 1966, after which the present Crest will be used entirely for adults. This is a badly needed improvement.

There has been a rise in the number of admissions of mentally ill and mentally subnormal persons to hospital, and in particular in the number of informal admissions of persons over the age of 65 years.

Infectious Diseases

There is little to report on the subject of infectious diseases, except to note that the number of notifications of tuberculosis has

fallen and of the existing figure 50% are in persons of Asian origin. For the fourth successive year there has been no poliomyelitis in the Borough and the continuation of this satisfactory state of affairs depends largely on as many persons as possible, up to the age of 40 years, being vaccinated against this disease.

Welfare Services

The event of the year in respect of the welfare services was the opening of Bromford House, a purpose built home of 52 beds for elderly residents. This brings the total of beds available in West Bromwich up to 186 but only 58% of these are situated on the ground floor or are served by a lift whereas 80% of the admissions during the year required ground floor accommodation.

The problem of the increasing frailty of persons coming forward for admission is growing more acute and of course the existing residents are becoming increasingly frail.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Mr. Cayton, the Chief Public Health Inspector has contributed this portion of the report.

The very considerable slaughtering trade in the area has once again absorbed a great deal of the time of the public health inspectorate.

It is pleasing to note a rise in the number of visits to food premises, but even so the average number of visits to any one premises in the year was only two, and only 72 samples of food were taken for analysis. This is too low for proper control.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises legislation has not resulted in a full registration of premises and there is a considerable amount of work to be done in this field.

Specific visits to houses in multiple occupation numbered only 45 to an estimated 250-300 such properties.

The treatment of rat infested sewers was not undertaken and this is fundamental to the control of rodents.

No inspection of hairdressers premises was undertaken during the year.

In regard to smoke control, a great deal of work has been done but as Mr. Cayton points out, the ultimate reduction of

air pollution to the minimum is still a long way off.

In respect of slum clearance, it is fortunate that the large areas have now been dealt with in West Bromwich and that so extensive a rehousing from slum areas has occurred in ten years.

The basic control of hygiene still remains and will remain essential to life in urban communities. The responsibilities placed on the Authority by successive legislation which increases with every year cannot be properly undertaken without increases in staff and the obvious insufficiency in this section appears to warrant re-appraisal as soon as possible.

Other Matters

The Rt. Hon. Kenneth Robinson, M.P., Minister of Health visited West Bromwich during the year and saw Warstone House (the home for elderly senile persons) and the Social Centre in Walsall Street.

A considerable amount of work is done in advising the Housing Department about applications for rehousing on the grounds of illness. This is time consuming and results in a large number of enquiries to the department. Advice is given to the Housing Manager and medical information sought from general practitioners. Medical points are awarded in cases of serious illness only. The department does not advise on matters of overcrowding or the poor conditions of houses as these matters are already covered by the existing points scheme.

Little work is being done with regard to health education except of course in the day to day conversations between members of the staff and individual families and by the teaching staff of the education service on health matters appropriate to school life.

In conclusion my thanks are due to the members of the staff of the Health Department for their work during 1965 and also for producing a considerable amount of this report, which is necessarily a joint effort. I am also grateful to my colleagues in the medical profession in the area for the good relationship that exists and for the help I have received on many occasions, to the other Chief Officers and Heads of Departments of the Corporation and their staffs for their co-operation, and to the Chairman and Members of the Committees of the Council for their support and guidance during 1965.

HUGH BRYANT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part 1

Statistical Information	13-22
Summary of Statistics	13-14
Vital Statistics	15-22
Population	15
Births	15-16
Stillbirths	16
Deaths	16-22
Deaths from Cancer	17-19
Deaths from Disease of Respiratory System	18
Infant Mortality	19-22
Deaths under Four Weeks of Age	20
Perinatal Mortality	20-21
Maternal Mortality	21
Morbidity	21
Suicide	21
Road Accidents	22

Part II

Local Health Services	23-57
Care of Mothers and Young Children	23-32
Ante-Natal Clinics	23-24
Infant Welfare Centres	24-25
Food and Medicaments	25-26
Dental Service	26-27
Babies Born with Congenital Defects	27-28
Care of Unmarried Mothers	28-29
Family Planning	29-30
Ultra Violet Light Clinic	30
Day Nurseries and Child Minders	30
Midwifery	31-33
General Arrangements	31
Distribution of Confinements	31-32
Midwives	32
Work of Municipal Midwives	32
Medical Aid	32
Early Discharge from Hospital	32
Emergency Obstetric Service	32
Maternal Mortality	33
Training in Domiciliary Midwifery	33
Post-Certificate Education of Midwives	33
Cases of Potential Difficulty	33
Health Visiting	34-35
General Arrangements	34
Home Visits	34-35
Diabetic Clinic	35
Liaison with other Agencies	35
Home Nursing	36-37
General Arrangements	36
Cases Nursed	36-37
Training of District Nurses	37
Vaccination and Immunisation	38-41
Vaccination against Smallpox	38-39

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus	39
Vaccination against Poliomyelitis	39-40
B.C.G. Vaccination	40-41
Ambulance Service	42-43
General Arrangements	42
Ambulances	42
Work done	42-43
Supply of Oxygen	43
Training of Staff	43
Major Accidents	43
Care and After Care	44-47
Convalescence	44
Loan Equipment	45
Incontinence Pad Service	45-46
Chiropody Service	47
Home Help Service	48-49
General Arrangements	48
Persons Helped	48-49
Night Attendance Service	49
Home Help Washing Service	49
Mental Health	50-57
General Arrangements	50
Old Age and Mental Illness	50-52
Residential Accommodation	52
Community Case Work	53
Work in the Community	53
Social Club	53
The Mentally Subnormal	54
Additions to the Register	54
Hospital Care	55
Community Care	55-57
Clinic for Subnormal	56
Training Centre	56-57

Part 111

Infectious Diseases	59-66
Incidence	59
Deaths from Infectious Diseases	59
Dysentery and Gastroenteritis	60
Measles	60
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	60
Pneumonia	60
Poliomyelitis	60
Scarlet Fever	60
Whooping Cough	60-61
Smallpox	61
Meningococcal Meningitis	61
Tuberculosis	62-66
Notifications of Tuberculosis	62
Deaths from Tuberculosis	63
Treatment of Tuberculosis	64
Attendances at Chest Clinic	65
Tuberculosis in Immigrants	63-64
Venereal Disease	67

Part IV

Additional Information	69-74
Health Education	69
Rehousing on Medical Grounds	69-70
Medical Examinations	70
Childrens Department	70
Corporation Staff	71-72
Nursing Homes	72
Home Safety	72
Co-ordination of Services Dealing with	
Child-Neglect	72-73
Cost of Services	74
Fluoridation of Water Supplies	74

Part V

Welfare Services	75-90
General Arrangements	75
Social Centre	75-75
Care of the Aged	75
Residential Accommodation	76-79
Finance	78-79
Voluntary Organisations	79
Meals on Wheels	79-80
Sons of Rest	79-80
Care of the Blind	80-84
Residential Care	81
Employment	81
Blind persons with other Disabilities	82
Partially Sighted	82
Visiting	82
Teaching in the Home	82
Training and Employment	82-83
After Care Grants	83
Holidays	83
Guide Dogs	83
Talking Books	83
Wireless	83
Social Activities	84
Large Print Books	84
Welfare of the Deaf and Dumb	84-90
Physically Handicapped	87
Wheelchairs and Motorised Vehicles	87
Car badges for Disabled Persons	87
Holidays 1964	87
Social Activities	88
Day Centres	88
Occupational Therapy Service	88-90
Classes at the Centre	88
Domiciliary Work	88
Social Activities	89
Transport	89-90

PART VI

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

(See Index at back)

PART 1

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

VITAL STATISTICS

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 1965

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WEST BROMWICH

The County Borough of West Bromwich is situated in South Staffordshire and is a manufacturing town principally engaged in foundry work and allied industries. The Town is situated in the Midlands Conurbation and has a number of residents who originally came from Asian and West Indian Countries.

Elevation above sea level	347 to 569 ft.
Geological formation	Sandy subsoil and prevalence of hard sandstone rock.
Rainfall (inches)	33.18
Area in acres (land and inland water)	7,172
Population per acre	13.6
New houses constructed including flats 1965	752
Estimated number of houses in the Borough as at 31st December 1965.	28,382
Rateable value at the 1st April 1965	£4,160,520
Rate at 1d. in the £ estimated to produce at 1st April 1965.	£17,000

VITAL STATISTICS

Population (estimated civilian population mid 1965)	98,040
(Census 1961)	96,041
Live births	1,782
Live birth rate (per 1,000 population)	18.1
Live birth rate (per 1,000 population) corrected	16.6
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	5.6
Stillbirths	39
Stillbirth rate (per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	21.4
Total live and stillbirths	1,821
Infant deaths	34
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	19.0

Legitimate infant mortality rate (per 1,000 legitimate births)	18.4
Illegitimate infant mortality rate (per 1,000 illegitimate births)	30.8
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 births)	11.2
Early Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 live births)	10.9
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	32.3
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	NIL
Maternal mortality rate (including abortion per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	NIL
Deaths	921
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	9.3
Death Rate (corrected)	12.2
Pulmonary tuberculosis death rate (per 1,000 population)	0.07
Cancer death rate (per 1,000 population)	1.62

ENGLAND AND WALES

Birth Rate	18.0
Death Rate	11.5
Stillbirth rate (per 1,000 total births)	15.7
Infant mortality rate	19.0

NAME AND ADDRESS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

H.O.M. Bryant, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Health Department,
West Bromwich.

Telephone Number: WESt Bromwich 1891 (Home: GREAt Barr 5805)

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The following figures show the estimated mid-year population of the Borough for each year since the census in 1951.

1951	..	..	..	87,981 (census)	1958	..	..	..	93,380
1952	..	..	..	87,640	1959	..	..	..	93,590
1953	..	..	..	87,960	1960	..	..	..	93,780
1954	..	..	..	88,650	1961	..	..	..	96,041 (census)
1955	..	..	..	89,640	1962	..	..	..	97,050
1956	..	..	..	90,720	1963	..	..	..	97,710
1957	..	..	..	93,050	1964	..	..	..	97,600
					1965	..	..	..	98,040

Coloured Population

It is difficult to give figures of the number of coloured persons now resident in West Bromwich. Vital statistics are not compiled giving separate information based on the pigmentation of the skin.

The 1961 census report showed that out of the 96,041 persons enumerated in West Bromwich, 4,565 were born outside England and Wales. The majority of these came from the West Indies and Asia.

No information about the age and sex distribution of the coloured or immigrant population of West Bromwich is available. Observation shows, however, that there are few coloured persons in middle or old age.

Births

There were 1,782 live births during the year to residents of West Bromwich giving a birth rate of 18.1 per 1,000 population and the number of births and the birth rate for the last 10 years is shown in the following table. Of the total of 235 births, included in the above, to coloured persons 219 occurred in hospital and 16 at home.

Year	Number of births	Birth rate per 1,000 population
1955	1,434	16.0
1956	1,533	16.9
1957	1,697	18.2
1958	1,662	17.8
1959	1,689	17.9
1960	1,692	18.0
1961	1,817	18.9
1962	1,854	19.1
1963	1,891	19.4
1964	1,855	19.0
1965	1,782	18.1

There were 913 boys and 869 girls born in 1965 and there were 101 illegitimate births, giving an illegitimate birth rate per 1,000 live births of 58 compared with 70 in 1964.

Stillbirths

The total number of stillbirths to West Bromwich residents was 39 giving a stillbirth rate of 19.6 per 1,000 live and stillbirths which is the same as for 1964. The rate for England and Wales is 15.7.

Deaths

There were 921 deaths of West Bromwich residents (464 males and 457 females) during the year, 674 of which occurred in persons aged 65 years and over. This gives a crude death rate per 1,000 population of 9.3. If this is corrected by use of the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General to take account of the age structure of the population in relation to that nationally, the figure is 12.0 compared with 14.8 for 1964.

The following table shows the principal causes of death over the last 10 years.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH FOR THE YEARS 1956 – 1965

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Cancer	160	149	151	173	174	209	154	194	190	169
Heart Diseases	229	249	246	247	258	222	282	231	259	298
Pneumonia	35	41	41	48	44	56	73	74	98	77
Bronchitis and other respiratory diseases	90	117	97	110	93	116	82	105	88	81
Vascular lesions	137	128	111	137	156	119	108	130	138	111
Tuberculosis .										
Pulmonary	15	13	19	15	16	11	11	7	7	6
Non-Pulmonary	2	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1

A particular feature of death rates both locally and nationally is the substantially large number of men in the 45/65 age group compared with women in the same age range. Nearly 2 men die for every death of a woman in this age group. The predominant causes of death in the men are cancer of the lung and bronchus, coronary thrombosis and bronchitis.

Deaths from Cancer

The following table gives details of the number of deaths localisation of, and the rate per cent. of total cancer deaths for certain specified sites of the body.

	Number of Deaths during		Rate per cent of total cancer deaths	
	1964	1965	1964	1965
Stomach	35	28	18.5	16.6
Lung and Bronchus	56	43	29.5	25.4
Breast	18	17	9.5	10.0
Uterus	4	10	2.0	6.0
Others	77	71	40.5	42.0
	190	169	100.0	100.0

Deaths from cancer of the lung still cause concern. The following table shows the death rate per 1,000 population from this disease for the last five years.

Cancer of the lung and bronchus

Year	Death rate per 1,000 population
1960	0.36
1961	0.69
1962	0.49
1963	0.48
1964	0.57
1965	0.43

Deaths from Diseases of the Respiratory System
excluding Cancer of the Lung.

The following table gives the number of deaths in age groups from diseases of the respiratory system in men and women during the year. The number of deaths of West Bromwich residents from pulmonary tuberculosis was 7 giving a pulmonary tuberculosis death rate of 0.07 per 1,000 population, which is the same as that for 1964.

AGE GROUP	Tuberculosis	Respiratory	Influenza		Pneumonia		Bronchitis		Other diseases of respiratory system		Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	3	2
1 - 4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
15 - 24 years	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
25 - 34 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
35 - 44 years	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	1	-	5	2
45 - 54 years	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	1	-	1	4	3
55 - 64 years	4	-	-	-	5	1	15	4	3	-	27	5
65 - 75 years	1	-	-	1	16	5	17	3	3	-	37	9
75 years and over	-	-	-	1	15	25	13	13	-	2	28	41
TOTALS	6	1	1	3	42	35	49	22	7	3	105	64

Certain Causes of Death

It is obvious that cancer of the lung, cancer of the breast, cancer of the stomach, coronary thrombosis and bronchitis between them are responsible for many of the deaths. The latest published figures for England and Wales and for West Bromwich, given as rates per thousand population, are as follows :-

<u>Types of disease</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>	<u>West Bromwich</u>
Cancer of the lung	0.55	0.43
Cancer of the breast	0.20	0.17
Cancer of the stomach	0.27	0.28
Coronary disease	2.36	1.39
Bronchitis	0.61	0.72

In comparing these rates, attention should be drawn to the size of England and Wales, compared with the County Borough of West Bromwich, and to the difference that the operation of chance can make in so small a community as that of West Bromwich.

Infant Mortality

A total of 34 infants whose parents were normally resident in the Borough died during the year. This gives an infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births of 19.0. The equivalent rate for England and Wales is the same. Three illegitimate babies died. Of the total of 34 infant deaths 8 occurred in coloured babies, a percentage of 23.5.

The following table shows the infant deaths in age groups over the period of the last ten years.

Year	Under 1 month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total	Infant death rate
1955	23	4	8	-	3	38	26
1956	23	8	3	-	1	35	23
1957	27	3	5	3	3	41	24
1958	18	3	2	-	-	23	14
1959	25	3	2	-	2	32	19
1960	20	6	6	3	1	36	21
1961	38	5	4	1	1	49	27
1962	27	9	8	2	1	47	25
1963	29	6	5	2	3	45	24
1964	22	5	6	2	1	36	19
1965	20	6	5	3	-	34	19

The following table shows the infant deaths from certain causes during the year :-

Cause of death	Under 1 month	1 – 3 months	3 – 6 months	6 – 9 months	9 – 12 months	Total under 1 year
Influenza	-	-	1	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	1	2	1	-	4
Congenital malformation	6	1	1	-	-	8
Prematurity & other causes	14	4	1	2	-	21
Totals :	20	6	5	3	-	34

Deaths under four weeks of age

There were 20 deaths of infants under 4 weeks, giving a neonatal mortality rate of 11.2 per 1,000 live births compared with 11.9 in 1964. The following table shows the age at which death occurred during the period of the first month.

1st day	2nd day	3rd day	4th day	5th day	6th day	7th day	1 – 2 weeks	2 – 3 weeks	3 – 4 weeks	Deaths under 1 month
17	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	20

Perinatal Mortality

The statistical device of a perinatal mortality rate is aimed at taking into account deaths occuring just before and just after the process of birth in an endeavour to give a total idea of the loss of infant life at about the time of birth. Expresses statistically, it is as follows :-

$$\frac{(\text{Deaths in the first week of life} + \text{stillbirths}) \times 1,000}{\text{Total births (both live and still)}}$$

The figure for West Bromwich this year is 32.3 compared with 30.1 in 1964. In view of the small number of children involved, infant mortality rates are unreliable and the perinatal death rate may give a better idea of the total wastage of infant life. The figure for England and Wales is 26.9.

To provide a comparison of the various rates involved in the consideration of perinatal mortality the following table gives information for each of the last five years.

Year	Infant Mortality Rate	Neonatal Mortality Rate	Stillbirth Rate	Perinatal Mortality Rate
1965	19.0	11.2	21.4	32.3
1964	19.4	11.9	19.6	30.1
1963	23.8	15.3	19.2	31.6
1962	25.4	14.6	15.9	28.1
1961	27.0	20.9	22.1	39.2

Maternal Mortality

One death in pregnancy occurred in 1965.

Suicide

Ten deaths were due to suicide which compares with 16 in 1964.

The age groups and sex of the persons concerned, together with the methods employed are shown in the following table:-

Cause of Death	AGE GROUP					
	15 – 44 years		45 – 64 years		65 years and over	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Hanging	-	-	1	-	-	-
Coal Gas Poisoning	-	-	2	-	1	1
Overdose of Drugs	1	-	-	-	1	2
Drowning	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals:	1	-	4	-	2	3

Road Accidents

Thirteen deaths were due to road accidents compared with nine in 1964. The following table shows the age groups, sex and types of accident:-

TYPES OF ACCIDENT	AGE GROUP							
	0 - 14 years		15 - 44 years		45 - 64 years		65 years and over	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pedestrian struck by vehicle	1	1	1	-	2	-	2	1
Car ran off road	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Collision of two vehicles	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
Car in collison with lampost	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	1	1	4	2	2	-	2	1

A further 23 deaths have been classified by the Registrar General as due to accident, 9 of which are known to have occurred in the home. Brief details are given in the following tables.

	AGE GROUP							
	0 - 14 years		15 - 44 years		45 - 64 years		65 years and over	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F..
HOME								
Inhalation of Vomit	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Burns	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Overlain in Bed	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inhalation of gas	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
Totals:	1	1	1,	-	-	-	2	4

PART 11

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

Care of Mothers and Young Children

Midwifery

Health Visiting

Home Nursing

Vaccination and Immunisation

Ambulance

Care and After Care

Chiropody

Home Help

Mental Health

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Ante-Natal Clinics

The Authority ran ante-natal clinics, at which post natal examinations were also carried out, at the following infant welfare centres:-

Boulton Road
Friar Park
Greets Green
Hamstead
Highfields
Hill Top
Stone Cross
Yew Tree

The clinics were staffed by nurses from the local authority and medical officers from the hospital service. There was an average of 32 sessions per month held during the year with an average attendance of 11 patients per session.

Attendances	1964	1965
New bookings	781	708
Return visits	3,637	3,743
Post Natal	16	25
	<hr/> 4,434 <hr/>	<hr/> 4,476 <hr/>

The following table shows the number of mothers attending and attendances made for mothercraft teaching and relaxation exercises during 1965.

Centre	Institutional Booked	Domiciliary Booked	Persons attending	Attendances
Hill Top & Highfields	6	75	81	376
Greets Green	-	-	-	-
Boulton Road	12	23	35	161
Friar Park	-	-	-	-
Hamstead	17	35	52	212
Hill Lane	-	-	-	-
Yew Tree & Stone Cross	12	49	61	336
Hallam Hospital *	43	-	43	144
Totals :	90	182	272	1,229

* Mothercraft only.

Infant Welfare Centres

There was no change in the pattern of Infant Welfare Centres during the year and the following table gives details of the place, day, total sessions and attendances at the centres.

Place	Day	Total sessions during the year	Total attendances during the year
Boulton Road	Tuesday Thursday	48 52	4,447
Friar Park	Wednesday	52	1,727
Hamstead	Friday	50	3,021
Greets Green	Wednesday	52	2,224
Highfields	Monday Thursday	48 52	4,262
Hill Top	Monday Thursday	48 52	2,714
Hill Lane	Monday Tuesday	48 48	3,626
Stone Cross	Tuesday Friday	48 50	2,957
Yew Tree	Wednesday Friday	52 50	2,733
Totals :		750	27,711

Each centre was staffed by health visitors and a medical officer of the health department staff, and valuable assistance was given at some clinics by voluntary workers.

Vaccination against smallpox and poliomyelitis, together with triple immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus was carried out at the centres.

Further details of the numbers of children attending the centres are given below :-

	First Attendances.		Subsequent Attendances.	
	1964	1965	1964	1965
Children between 0 – 1 year	1,861	1,789	22,069	20,970
Children between 1 – 2 years	24	27	4,717	4,259
Children between 2 – 5 years	23	38	3,091	2,482

Baby Foods

There was a central distribution centre open during office hours each day for the distribution of baby food, orange juice and cod liver oil, and supplies were also available at all infant centres in the Borough.

The following quantities were issued to beneficiaries :-

	1964	1965	
National Dried Milk	276	373	tins free
	8,081	5,380	tins at 2s. 4d.
	3,736	3,126	tins at 4s. 0d.
Total :	<u>12,093</u>	<u>8,879</u>	
Orange Juice	21,190	19,629	bottles at 1s. 6d.
	1,918	2,116	bottles free
Total :	<u>23,108</u>	<u>21,745</u>	

	1964	1965
Cod Liver Oil	1,604 606	1,478 bottles at 1s. 0d. 655 bottles free
Total :	<u>2,210</u>	<u>2,133</u>
Vitamin Tablets	1,529 106	1,064 packets at 6d. 97 packets free
Total :	<u>1,635</u>	<u>1,161</u>

Free issues are made on production of vouchers obtained through the National Assistance Board.

Issues of National Dried Milk at 2s. 4d. are made on the production of welfare foods vouchers obtained from the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance.

A total of 50,502 items of various proprietary foods was sold giving an income of £6,166. The price in each case was the cost to the Corporation plus 10%, and usually was less than the normal retail price.

Dental Service

The following tables show the number of mothers and young children provided with dental care during 1965 and the forms of dental treatment given:-

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally fit
Expectant and nursing mothers	91	58	58	42
Children under five years	373	232	232	209

Forms of dental treatment provided

	Scaling and gum treatment	Fillings	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Crowns or inlays	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Dentures provided		Radiographs
							Full upper or lower	Partial upper or lower	
Expectant and nursing mothers	12	61	-	-	171	38	10	6	6
Children under five years	11	203	6	-	494	188	-	-	1

The Principal School Dental Officer, Mr. Cuzner, reports that the amount of work for nursing and expectant mothers shows some decrease – which is a common trend throughout the country. This is due to the fact that this class of patient no longer has to make any payment towards her treatment under the General Dental Service. Thus the regular attender has no reason to change to the Local Authority Dental Service when pregnant. The continuity of treatment from the same dentist is, of course, the best for these mothers. The only patients in this class who come to us are either people who have just arrived in the district or else those who only desire emergency treatment and who have no regular dentist of their own.

The inspection of 3 year old children has continued, with some difficulties due to illness, but there is a very welcome and large increase in the amount of work done for the pre-school child. The number of fillings has increased about three times. Many of the children were new patients, but mothers were bringing their children back for second and third courses of treatment

This regular inspection and treatment is very important with the young. The children growing up used to regular visits to the dentist will have far less fear in later life and also will need less extensive treatment.

Babies born with Congenital Defects

Cases of congenital malformations noted at birth have continued to be reported by midwives on birth notification cards which have been suitably printed to accommodate the additional information. The appropriate returns have been made to the Registrar General.

During the year, 33 babies were notified and all the returns were scrutinised by a medical officer of the department. If necessary the babies were visited. After the doctors' investigations, 12 babies were not considered to be malformed, leaving a total in the year of 21, five of which were stillborn.

The babies mentioned in the previous paragraph who were born with congenital abnormalities were all entered on the "At Risk Register", which also contains the names of all babies who, on account of family history, illness of the mother during pregnancy, or difficult birth, are considered to be in danger of developing handicapping conditions.

These children are followed-up at regular intervals so that any abnormality of development can be investigated at the earliest opportunity, and arrangements made for the appropriate treatment to be obtained, or for special schooling or training to be given.

Care of Unmarried Mothers

A total of 100 illegitimate births during 1965 representing 5.8% of the total births was recorded in respect of women normally resident in the Borough.

Of these, 41 cases were dealt with by the Moral Welfare Worker of the Lichfield Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare Work, and the Organising Secretary of the Association reports on the work for the year as follows :-

"Forty-one mothers who had illegitimate babies in 1965 sought help from the Moral Welfare Worker. In addition twenty-three mothers with illegitimate babies born before 1965, were helped in making plans for the babies. Eleven expectant mothers whose babies were due to be born in 1966 have had arrangements made for their confinements. This makes a total of seventy-five cases requiring help during 1965.

Twenty-one mothers were accommodated in Diocesan Homes and twenty had hospital confinements.

Three of the cases concerned married women, one of whom was divorced, one living apart from her husband and one was legally separated from her husband.

The ages of the mothers ranged between 15 and 35 and are listed as follows :-

Aged 15 – 3	Aged 16 – 4	Aged 17 – 9	Aged 18 – 7
Aged 19 – 6	Aged 20 – 1	Aged 21 – 5	Aged 22/27 – 2
Aged 28/34 – 2	Aged 35/40 – 2.		

The ages of the putative fathers ranged between 16 and 35; 31 were single men, 7 married men and the details of 3 men are not known.

In the majority of cases the putative fathers have been interviewed with the result that one Affiliation Order has been granted and twelve private agreements signed. Eight girls married the putative fathers.

The babies were placed as follows :-

- 18 with mother at home
- 7 with parents married
- 1 with parents co-habiting
- 12 have been adopted through this Association
- 1 child is with mother in lodgings
- 1 case was transferred to another Caseworker
- 1 baby was stillborn

A total of 400 visits has been made in connection with the 75 cases under care. In addition the homes of the prospective adopters have been visited and reported on, babies visited after they have been placed for adoption, girls conveyed to homes and accompanied when they have had to appear in Court or to have their signatures witnessed when consenting to an Adoption Order being made.

We wish to express our gratitude for the help and advice given by the Medical Officer of Health and his staff."

Family Planning

The West Bromwich Branch of the Family Planning Association held a session each Wednesday evening in the Highfields Infant Welfare Centre, and appointment sessions at the Stone Cross Infant Welfare Centre for patients requiring oral contraceptives.

The following is a summary of the work during the year:-

	Highfields Clinic	Stone Cross Clinic
Number of sessions held	47	45
Number of new patients	236	89

Ultra Violet Light Clinic

The ultra violet light clinics were held on Monday and Thursday afternoons at the Central School Clinic and on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons at the Stone Cross Clinic.

The following table gives the number of children receiving artificial sunlight treatment during the year:-

		Number of children on register at 31st December, 1965.	Number of attendances during the year
Pre-school Children	Boys	-	43
	Girls	1	62
School Children	Boys	8	744
	Girls	8	639
Totals :		17	1,488

Day Nurseries and Child Minders

The Council have no day nursery operating in the Borough and at the beginning of the year there were three registered child minders. One of these had not commenced minding, and towards the end of the year another left the area, leaving only one registered minder.

Visits of inspection were carried out monthly.

This does not appear to represent the total amount of minding of children for reward that occurs in the Borough, but actual proof of other cases is lacking.

MIDWIFERY

Staff

Mothers being confined at home were cared for by 14 midwives and 4 part-time maternity nurses employed by the Council. There is also a non-medical supervisor of midwives.

General Arrangements

There is a rota scheme which enables the midwives to have three weeks out of four free from night calls (apart from exceptional circumstances). On the fourth week those midwives on duty cover the whole of the Borough for night calls, but are free during the day.

The rota provides three midwives each night on "first call" and a further three are on "second call" but are seldom required for duty.

Distribution of Confinements

The following table shows the distribution of births between home and hospital over the last ten years:-

	Birth in :-	
	Hospital	Home
1956	834	768
1957	1,015	719
1958	1,012	746
1959	930	795
1960	1,019	783
1961	1,081	786
1962	1,127	807
1963	1,206	766
1964	1,170	700
1965	1,184	605

A total of 1,917 births occurred in West Bromwich during 1965 of which 1,789 were to persons who gave a home address in the town when making arrangements for the confinement. The final number of births registered to permanent residents as published by the Registrar General was 1,782.

This year 66% of confinements of West Bromwich mothers occurred in hospital and 34% at home.

Midwives

Number of practising midwives

The midwives who notified their intention to practice were :-

In hospital 17

In Municipal Domiciliary Practice 15

Work of the Municipal Midwives

Municipal midwives attended 620 confinements and of these 15 refer to persons confined in the area, but whose normal place of residence was outside the Borough. Each mother was visited twice daily for the first four days after delivery, and then daily up to the tenth day. Visits made by the midwives are summarised as follows:-

	1964	1965
Ante-natal visits	4,347	4,384
Nursing visits during the puerperium and post-natal period (including early discharges from hospital).	13,768	14,868
	<u>18,115</u>	<u>19,252</u>

Medical Aid

Medical aid was called by midwives on 32 occasions.

Early Discharge from Hospital

A total of 1,185 mothers who were delivered in hospitals were discharged home before the 10th day to be attended by domiciliary midwives. Of these 206 were discharged on or by the 2nd day and 351 on or by the 5th day. Considerable additional work is placed on the municipal midwives by the fact that 882 mothers (74%) were discharged from hospital on or by the 7th day.

Emergency Obstetric Service

This service which is readily available to deal with emergencies in domiciliary practice operates from Hallam Hospital.

Maternal Mortality

There was one death of a West Bromwich resident attributable to pregnancy during 1965.

Training in Domiciliary Midwifery

Two pupil midwives received training during the year in West Bromwich for the second part of the certificate of the Central Midwives Board. Three of the midwives are specially approved by the Central Midwives Board, as teaching midwives, but during the year only two were willing to accept pupils.

Post Certificate Education of Midwives

Each midwife must attend a refresher course approved by the Royal College of Midwives every five years and two West Bromwich midwives attended courses during 1965.

Cases of Potential Difficulty

Certain special categories of expectant mothers should, wherever possible, have their babies in hospital for medical reasons. The following figures representing such cases confined at home during 1965 show that this ideal is far from reached. The figures for hospital confinements of these special categories are also given:-

	Home	Hospital
1. Primipara over 30 years of age	5	31
2. Multipara over 40 years of age	8	34
3. Women in their fourth or subsequent pregnancy	105	269

The domestic problems of women having their fourth or subsequent pregnancy are often so considerable as to militate against delivery in hospital. The Home Help Service does not meet all of the needs of such mothers and its use can be quite expensive in such cases.

HEALTH VISITING

Staff

At the end of December 1965, the staff consisted of the Chief Nursing Officer, Deputy Chief Nursing Officer and 9 out of an establishment of 19 health visitors (which includes 3 group advisors).

Health Visitors perform joint duties, working both as school nurses and as health visitors. Approximately 35% of their time is given to the School Health Service.

General Arrangements

The area of the County Borough is divided into districts, one health visitor being in charge of each district and working under the general supervision of the Chief Nursing Officer. In these districts the health visitors carry out the visiting of infants and young children up to the age of five and also visits to any members of the family depending on the need. There is close liaison with the hospital for the following-up of children.

An arrangement exists with the Consultant Physician in charge of wards for the chronic sick, whereby he, together with the Chief Nursing Officer, visits the homes of elderly persons awaiting admission so that an assessment can be made both of the medical and social urgency in an endeavour to use the beds to the best advantage, and deploy the domiciliary services effectively.

Home Visits

The Health Visitors' time is divided between work in clinics and home visits. Details of the latter over the last five years are as follows:-

Analysis of Home Visits	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
First visit to births	1,751	1,886	1,859	1,670	1,540
Revisits to children under twelve months.	4,679	3,830	4,116	3,828	3,634
Revisits to children 1 - 5 years	7,771	7,114	7,389	7,070	6,557
Visits to cases of infectious disease	128	21	21	73	15
Visits to expectant mothers	109	95	234	251	117
Miscellaneous	755	860	938	1,183	769
B.C.G. Vaccinations	-	1	1	4	7
Totals :	15,193	13,807	14,558	14,079	12,639

During 1965, a total of 1,961 visits that were made were fruitless because there was nobody at home. It is difficult to reduce this number. Visits by appointment are difficult to arrange because of the fluctuating calls for the Health Visitors.

At the end of December the Health Visitors' case load of children under the age of five years was 5,860.

Diabetic Clinic

A Health Visitor attended the diabetic clinic held in the District Hospital and was responsible for liaison with the physician and helping to see that the patients were able to carry out the instructions given them concerning diet.

Liaison with Other Agencies

Work with General Practitioners

The Local Medical Committee has agreed to an experiment of attaching Health Visitors to practises and for the Health Visitors to work in accordance with the lists of patients and not geographically. This has been carried out now for three years in one practise with success, but the shortage of Health Visitors prevents expansion of this service.

Work with Hospitals

The Chief Nursing Officer works closely with the Consultant Physician having charge of the geriatric beds accompanying him on his domiciliary visits to help by arranging for care at home. Her deputy attends the paediatric department and one Health Visitor also attends the diabetic clinic.

The limiting factor is the shortage of health visitors (at present 50% under establishment), with adequate and suitable staff, time could be found to pursue the opportunities of joint working within the National Health Service to the benefit of the patients.

HOME NURSING

Staff

The following staff were employed at the end of the year :-

	Men	Women
Chief Nursing Officer	-	1
Supervisor of District Nurses	-	1
State Registered Nurses: Full Time	2	11

General Arrangements

The District Nurses work under the supervision of the Chief Nursing Officer who allocates and organises their duties. Requests for nursing assistance are made by general practitioners to the Chief Nursing Officer and arrangements are also made for the continuation of treatment after a patient's discharge from hospital. The nurses carry out the instructions of the family doctors regarding treatment. Evening calls are covered by a rota of nurses.

Cases Nursed

The following table shows the average number of nurses employed, the number of visits and the number of new cases over each of the past five years :-

Year	Average number of nurses employed	Number of new cases	Total Number of visits.
1961	11½	822	30,359
1962	12	772	30,169
1963	13	782	30,957
1964	13	708	31,890
1965	13	726	36,155

Of the 987 patients nursed during 1965, 871 were referred by general practitioners 7 by the Chest Clinic, 101 by hospitals and 8 were transferred from another area.

The work carried out month by month was as follows:-

	Number of patients being nursed at the beginning of month.	New Cases	Number of patients being nursed at the end of month.	Nursing visits
January	261	66	259	3,024
February	259	83	264	3,003
March	264	66	278	3,001
April	278	70	264	3,451
May	264	53	279	3,063
June	279	70	309	2,963
July	309	50	257	3,139
August	267	38	276	2,850
September	267	47	292	2,575
October	292	69	280	3,053
November	280	55	264	3,029
December	264	59	289	3,004

Training of District Nurses

The West Midlands Authorities (Wolverhampton, West Bromwich, Smethwick, Dudley, Walsall County Boroughs and Staffordshire County) ran a District Nurse Training Course jointly at the Walsall Technical College with lecturers from all the areas. So far 12 nurses from West Bromwich have passed the examination. This means that most of the present staff are fully trained in district nursing.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The recommended timetable for immunisation and vaccination of infants is now as follows :-

2 – 4 months	Three injections, against whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus at monthly intervals.
7 – 9 months	Oral vaccination against poliomyelitis – 3 doses.
12 months – 2 years	Vaccination against smallpox
18 – 20 months	One booster injection against whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus.

Only disposable syringes are used in the Local Authority Services.

Vaccination against Smallpox

Vaccination of infants against smallpox is carried out at the infant welfare centres and by general practitioners. The number of primary vaccinations in children under five years of age is shown in the following table :-

Age at date of vaccination	Under 1 year	1 year	2 – 4 years	5 – 14 years	15 years and over	Total
Number vaccination (primary)	9	371	298	22	10	710
Number re-vaccinated		12	40	25	37	114

The following table shows the acceptance for children under the age of five years compared with the estimated population in that age group :-

Year	Number vaccinated	Estimated Population
1965	678	8,000
1964	677	8,000
1963	330	8,000
1962	1,968	8,000
1961	450	7,849 (Census)
1960	395	7,900
1959	617	7,800
1958	530	7,500
1957	493	7,300

There is no significant change in the figures for 1965 compared with 1964, but even so the number of children vaccinated in infancy is only a small proportion and represents 38% of the live births.

The greatly increased figure for 1962 is due to the occurrence of a case of smallpox in the town and a number of cases elsewhere in the country.

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Protection against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus is freely available to all children at the local authority clinics and from family doctors.

A total of 1,067 infants was given protection against diphtheria during the year and a total of 1,686 reinforcement injections was given to school children. The corresponding figures for 1964 were 1,269 and 1,367 respectively.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

The following table shows the number of persons who were vaccinated against poliomyelitis during the year :-

PRIMARY IMMUNISATION

Age Group	Number of persons who have received	
	Second injection of of Salk vaccine	Third dose of Oral Vaccine
0 – 1	-	187
1 – 2	1	840
2 – 15	11	383
Others	4	130
Total:	16	1,540

REINFORCING DOSES

Number of persons given third injection of Salk Vaccine	-
Number of persons given fourth injection of Salk Vaccine	-
Number of persons given a reinforcing dose of oral vaccine after primary immunisation with salk or oral vaccine.	342

The above immunisation figures show an unsatisfactory state of affairs with considerable room for improvement. With a staff of health visitors well below establishment improvement will be difficult to achieve. The usual methods of publicity have been used, but individual visits are necessary to persuade some parents to make a decision rather than continue to procrastinate.

B.C.G. VACCINATION

B.C.G. Vaccination continued to be offered to children who reached the age of 13 years, and in accordance with Ministry of Health circular 19/64, the vaccination was re-offered to all children aged 15 years who had not received it previously. Of 1,780 children eligible 1,373 (77%) accepted. Of these 1,336 received the skin test, and 1,161 were given B.C.G. vaccination. No complications of vaccination occurred.

One hundred and two children had positive (Mantoux) skin tests, i.e., they had already come into contact with tuberculosis infection and had developed some resistance to it. This gives a

positive skin test rate of 7.6%, which is lower than the rates for last year.

The following figures show the positive skin test rates for the last five years :-

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Positive skin test rate	11%	8.6%	7.1%	7.1%	8.4%	7.6%

The children who had positive Mantoux tests were given appointments for chest X-ray and investigation by the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic. As a result two children were kept under observation for varying periods of time, but neither of these have been notified as cases of tuberculosis.

No cases of tuberculosis were discovered amongst immediate contacts of any of these Mantoux-positive children.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

General Arrangements

The service is administered and operated by the Corporation's Transport Department on behalf of the Health Committee. Ambulances are used for journeys in West Bromwich and to and from centres in the Midlands. A total of six patients was carried by train in 1965.

Ambulances

A new 2/4 berth ambulance and a new sitting case ambulance were put into service during the year.

Vehicles in service:-

<u>Type</u>	<u>Placed in service</u>	<u>Mileage 1965</u>
Morris	6.7.49.	1,598
Daimler	22.1.51.	744
Daimler	25.5.56.	2,442
Morris	1.7.57.	11,452
Morris	8.7.58.	13,330
Morris	18.7.62.	18,445
Morris	7.9.62.	15,359
Morris	23.4.63.	13,253
Austin	16.11.64.	21,386
Austin	22.2.65.	19,975
Austin	6.10.65.	3,238
Total:		<u>114,222</u>

Work Done

The figures below show the use of the service over the last ten years :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Patients</u>	<u>Mileage</u>
1956	21,305	84,215
1957	21,580	87,608
1958	23,383	85,914
1959	23,712	88,580
1960	23,896	85,733
1961	27,283	96,518
1962	29,165	96,601
1963	31,464	108,834
1964	35,320	117,389
1965	31,852	114,222

The following table shows the number of outpatients carried to hospital for treatment. It will be seen that the greater proportion of patients carried are those for routine treatment or examination and much of ambulance work is purely transport of passengers.

<u>Year</u>	<u>No of Out-Patients</u>
1956	14,952
1957	15,062
1958	17,189
1959	17,598
1960	17,339
1961	20,615
1962	22,605
1963	23,746
1964	28,398
1965	25,243

Supply of Oxygen

The arrangements for the supply of oxygen in an emergency to patients in their own homes, at the request of the family doctor, continued to operate. An oxygen set supplied through arrangements made by the Local Executive Council is immediately available at the depot.

Staff

One driver was recruited during 1965 to provide additional cover to holidays.

Lectures in advanced first aid were given by consultants and were also attended by men from neighbouring ambulance services. Two drivers were sent on special training courses.

Major Accidents

A scheme provides for immediate nursing and medical help and equipment from hospital within a few minutes and in conjunction with the police, fire and hospital authorities for control of the accident, ambulance directions and use of hospital beds.

A printed booklet "Emergency Catastrophe Procedure" has been issued for the guidance of staff concerned and is revised periodically. This is a joint venture with the hospital service and the police and fire services.

CARE AND AFTER-CARE

Convalescence

Patients are sent for convalescence on the recommendation of their own doctors and hospital consultants. They contribute towards the cost according to their means. Altogether 57 applications were investigated, 16 of these subsequently declined to accept arrangements that could be made for them. The high number of non-acceptances is due to the fact that a charge is made dependent upon income.

A total of 40 adults and 1 child received recuperative holidays under the authority's scheme and most of the patients were accommodated in homes by the sea.

In addition to convalescent home fees, travelling expenses were paid in respect of 40 patients.

Recommendations

These were made as follows:-

By General Practitioners	41
By Hospital Physicians and Surgeons	-
	<hr/>
	41

Age Group of Patients

The 41 patients were of the following age groups:-

Under 21 years	1
21 to 44 years	4
45 to 64 years	20
65 years and over	16
	<hr/>
	41

PROVISION OF NURSING EQUIPMENT

Loan Equipment

Stocks of nursing equipment for use in patients homes are held at the nurses' centre. These articles are lent on the recommendation of a general practitioner, midwife or district nurse.

The following types of equipment were available for use during the year :-

Air rings	Bed wedges
Back rests	Feeding cups
Bed cradles	Head poles and chains
Bed pans	Housechairs
Bedstead (special)	Mattresses and covers
Commode chairs	Nocturnal Enuresis alarms
Crutches	Spinal carriages
Urinals	Spinal supports
Waterproof sheets	Sputum cups (disposable)
Walking sticks	Wheelchairs
Walking aids	Fracture boards

No charge is made for the use of the equipment, but each borrower is required to sign an agreement to return items loaned within three months and in good condition. The loan period can be extended by signing a further agreement.

INCONTINENCE PAD SERVICE

The Council authorises the free issue of incontinence pads as part of their arrangements for the care of patients in their own homes. Pads are freely available at the Nurses' Centre and are issued upon the advice of a doctor or nurse.

These pads have been a normal item of equipment used by the Home Nurses for some years and it has been found that the greater majority of patients in need of the pads are in fact attended by the Home Nursing Service and, therefore, received them in this way. Consequently there has only been a small demand (six patients) for pads provided separately than through the Nursing Services.

Disposal of the pads has not presented a special problem. The variety used are composed entirely of paper (some patterns have a waterproof outer covering) and burn in domestic fires of various kinds. In some cases outside incineration is resorted to, and in the modern blocks of flats provided by the Council electric incinerators are installed.

CHIROPODY SERVICE

This service is directly provided by the Council and is restricted to certain categories which are shown below with the charges made for treatment.

	Clinic Treatment	Home Treatment
Aged, Handicapped, Blind Persons	2s. 6d.	4s. 0d.
Expectant Mothers	5s. 0d.	7s. 6d.

An appointment system is operated, a full-time chiropodist works 10 sessions per week and is assisted by three part-time chiroposists who provide 13 sessions per week.

The following table shows the number of treatments given:-

Clinic		Domiciliary		Residential Accommodation	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
327	2,213	134	1,505	77	204
Totals : 2,540		1,639		281	

This grand total of 4,460 treatments is 1,455 more than in 1964, but does not represent the full need. It seems probable that a considerable number of elderly persons have defects of the feet requiring chiropody, but are not aware of the facilities and the value of treatment.

The present service, however, is as much as the staff can provide.

It is estimated that the chiropodist deals with an average of seven treatments each clinic session and two or three each domiciliary session depending upon the amount of time spent on travelling between addresses by public transport.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Staff

The Home Help Service at the end of the year employed one full-time staff and 68 part-time staff, making an equivalent of approximately 38 in terms of full-time staff.

The greater amount of work is done in the morning – this being the most convenient time, both to the patients and to the home helps.

General Arrangements

Home Helps are available to meet the needs of those residents of the town who for various reasons are unable, either temporarily or permanently, to manage their own housework and who need help at home to make life bearable.

The service is one for which a charge is made, based on the financial position of the family and the hours of service given.

The number of patients helped over the previous ten years is shown in the following table :-

Year	Maternity	Aged and Chronic sick
1956	48	246
1957	54	293
1958	40	323
1959	45	365
1960	72	382
1961	58	420
1962	53	422
1963	30	426
1964	34	468
1965	42	520

Persons Helped

During the year a total of 213 new patients was given help for the first time and of these 125 were chronic sick, 42 maternity and 1 case of tuberculosis.

The position over the last ten years is shown in the following table :-

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Confinements at home	42	44	40	44	69	46	49	27	30	35
Other maternity cases	6	10	-	1	3	12	4	3	4	7
Aged and Chronic sick	246	293	323	365	380	420	422	426	468	520
Tuberculosis	10	8	10	7	7	8	6	9	10	8
Problem families	3	4	6	8	9	8	10	8	3	-
Mental Health	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	7	8
Other including acute illness	35	38	42	47	56	57	49	60	55	53
Totals	342	397	421	472	524	551	540	539	577	631

Of the total of 631 cases helped, 98 paid full cost (5s. 0d. per hour), and 533 paid part cost.

Night Attendance Service

This service is designed to provide attendance at night for cases of illness and emergency when other arrangements cannot be made. It is, therefore, only used for urgent need and is not a large and extensive service.

During the year 1 person was willing to do this work and dealt with six cases for the following reasons :-

Chronic Sick:-

Terminal Illness	5
Acute Illness	1

Home Help Washing Service

Some five or six bags of soiled washing totalling some twenty articles are dealt with weekly. This is a small but valuable service which could with advantage be extended.

MENTAL HEALTH

The functions of the Local Health Authority in this field consist of establishing a service to provide social assistance to all types of mentally disordered patients not requiring hospital treatment, and to patients after discharge from hospital. This includes such matters as provision of training centres, residential accommodation, social clubs, and help given by social workers with the varied problems of the mentally disordered and their families. The Mental Welfare Officer in particular, who has responsibilities concerning the admission of patients to hospital, works closely with both hospital, and general practitioner in the interests of his patients.

General Arrangements

The Health Committee was responsible to the Council for the Mental Health Service. The Medical Officer of Health and his staff were the responsible officers. In 1965 there were two mental welfare officers, one trained social worker, and a mental health officer working with the mentally subnormal. In order to provide for the availability of a mental welfare officer at all hours, West Bromwich and Smethwick jointly operated a duty rota on a weekly basis.

Mental Illness

The Borough of West Bromwich sent most of its mentally ill patients to All Saints Hospital, Winson Green, Birmingham 18, and consequently has its closest liaison with that hospital. Out-patient facilities for the treatment of mental illness are also available at the Hallam Hospital, West Bromwich.

Patients suffering from mental disorder can be admitted to hospital informally or an authority for detention which allows the hospital to detain them for stated periods of time. Compulsory powers are only used as a last resort and of course, the law provides for appeal against detention.

The following table shows the number of patients resident in the Borough who were admitted informally or under compulsory powers over the past 10 years :-

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Informally	91	44	41	77	81	150	179	170	192	238
Compulsory powers	68	119	108	101	124	89	76	88	61	78
Totals :	159	163	149	178	205	239	255	258	253	316

During 1965, 17 people, whose place of residence was in the area of another Local Authority, were also admitted from West Bromwich, 10 under compulsory powers and 7 on an informal basis, making the total number of admissions known to the mental welfare officers as 333.

During 1965, 78 patients resident in the Borough were admitted under compulsory powers, 63 emergencies under an authority for detention for 72 hours, 10 for observation under an authority for detention for up to 28 days, and 3 for long term treatment (on an authority for up to 1 year in the first instance). The hospital authorities after the patients admission, in the light of the condition of the patient, took steps to alter the authority for detention accordingly, and 18 out of the 63 admitted under emergency powers remained in hospital of their own volition after expiry of the authority at the end of 72 hours.

Of the total of 316 admissions of West Bromwich residents to All Saints Hospital in 1965, 239 were treated and discharged within the year, 12 died, 2 absconded and only 63 were still in hospital at the end of the year. In addition there were 43 West Bromwich patients from previous years in All Saints Hospital at the end of 1965, another 12 in St. Matthews Hospital and another 3 in other Psychiatric Hospitals making a grand total of West Bromwich patients in Psychiatric Hospitals at the end of 1965 as 123. A further 270 persons were referred for help, but admission to hospital was not finally considered necessary after consultation.

All Saints Hospital, Winson Green, makes arrangements for a day hospital to which patients are transported daily by the West Bromwich Ambulance Service. Obviously, many of these are physically capable of travelling on public transport, but because of of their illness, cannot face this prospect. Many are so depressed and withdrawn that they would not go if they were not taken. This daily attendance undoubtedly prevents a number from having to be

admitted or re-admitted as in-patients for treatment. As soon as their condition has improved sufficiently they are encouraged to use public transport.

Old Age and Mental Illness

The following table shows the number of patients over 60 years of age admitted to mental hospitals from West Bromwich over the past 10 years :-

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Informal	15	6	8	9	17	26	44	49	54	86
Admitted under compulsory powers	20	35	26	32	33	29	19	21	9	12
Totals :	35	41	34	41	50	55	63	70	63	98

Of the 12 patients over 60 admitted under compulsion, none remained under compulsion after 28 days. All cases of this age are seen by a consultant psychiatrist before admission.

Residential Accommodation for Elderly Mentally Disordered Persons.

Warstone House is a purpose-built home of 27 beds built by the Council in 1963 under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act for the Elderly Mentally Disordered. These patients are senile and suffer mainly from dementia which does not require admission to hospital but is beyond management in the domestic household or in an ordinary Old Peoples' Home. Residents remain under the care of their own General Practitioners, but a Consultant Psychiatrist advises on their suitability for admission, and on their management in the Home.

The home provides 11 single bedrooms and 8 double ones, and the staff consists of 1 Chief Male Nurse, 1 Deputy Charge Nurse, 6 full-time and 3 half-time Nursing Assistants, with the appropriate domestic and cooking staff.

Careful selection of patients for admission is necessary, particularly with regard to their physical as well as their psychiatric condition. Fewer prolonged nursing problems occurred as in 1965, the home's second complete year, mainly because as a result of experience during the first year more consideration was given to

the physical state of patients before they were selected for admission. Some nursing is of course essential, particularly during terminal illness, and most of the patients require nursing attention even when they are in their normal health.

One particular problem is the considerable amount of laundry (due to incontinence) that arises in this type of home, and throughout the day and night there are problems in management. The home serves a great need and relieves relatives and old persons' homes of difficult patients not needing hospital treatment. The co-operation of the psychiatric and general hospitals is invaluable.

During the year 9 new patients were admitted, 3 from their own homes, 2 from old peoples' homes administered by the Council under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948, 3 from psychiatric hospitals and 1 from a general hospital. Five patients died in the home, 1 was discharged to Part III Accommodation, 3 to psychiatric hospitals (one later re-admitted) and 3 to general hospitals (one later re-admitted).

Work in the Community

At the end of the year the number of people who were known to the staff and who were receiving visits or some form of help numbered 1249. A considerable amount of work is done in association with the hospital in providing information relating to patients visiting those discharged and paying visits to those who, through mental illness, might well eventually come for hospital treatment. A good relationship exists between the staff and the hospital staff of All Saints Hospital, Winson Green and in the mentally subnormal, St. Margaret's Hospital, Great Barr. There is also co-operation with other social agencies in the town such as the Ministry of Labour Resettlement Officer.

Social Club

The Psychiatric Social Club meets on Monday evenings at the Social Centre built by the Welfare Committee in Walsall Street and does much to promote the general welfare of those attending. Members are encouraged to be responsible for the management of the club affairs, assisted by the mental health staff, and enthusiasm is shown by a small executive committee. The membership is about 60 with a weekly attendance of about 35.

Relationship with the Hospital

The Medical Director of All Saints Hospital has re-organised the existing out-patients facilities, and wherever possible patients who are ambulant and agreeable are now seen at the hospital out-patients department. Weekly case conferences are held at the hospital with the mental welfare staff so that there is the continuity of service to patients before, during and after discharge from hospital.

Mental Subnormality

Additions to the Register

The following table shows the sources of the 27 new cases added to register during 1965.

	Severely Subnormal		Subnormal		Under 16		Over 16	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Notified by West Bromwich Education Authority Sec. 57(3) of Education Act.	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from Other Local Authorities	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospital	-	1	3	-	-	-	1	2
Mental Welfare	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Medical Staff	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Welfare Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Neighbour	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-

Of the 8 cases notified by the Local Education Authority, (5 boys and 3 girls) 2 girls were admitted to the Training Centre, and the remaining 5 boys and 1 girl are on the waiting list for admission to the new Junior Training Centre. Of the remaining 19 patients, 5 are in regular employment, one has left the area, two have been admitted to hospital for assessment and training, one has been re-assessed as a schizophrenic and referred to All Saints Hospital, and 10 are visited at home.

A new Junior Training Centre is under construction and will be opened in 1966, when the present Centre will serve adults only.

Hospital Care

During 1965, 5 patients were admitted to hospital, 2 informally, 1 under Section 26 and 2 under Section 60 of the Mental Health Act, 1959. The two informal admissions were both severely subnormal patients.

At the end of the year 161 persons from West Bromwich were receiving care and training in various hospitals and homes as subnormal, severely subnormal or psychopathic persons.

The following table gives details.

	Male	Female	Total
Subnormal	15	9	24
Severly Subnormal	56	80	136
Psychopathic disorder	1	-	1
	<u>72</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>161</u>

Of these, 130 are under no compulsion to remain in hospital and 31 are subject to compulsory detention.

Care in the Community

A total of 227 persons are continuing to receive friendly visits from the Mental Health Social Worker.

Details are as follows :-

	Under 16		Over 16	
Friendly Visiting	M	F	M	F
Severely Subnormal	35	28	38	55
Subnormal	-	-	33	38
On extended leave of absence from hospital				
Severely Subnormal	-	-	-	
Subnormal	-	-	-	1

Once again it is interesting to note that 2 male patients who were certified in 1936-1937 at the age of 11 years and 14 years respectively were found employment with the Corporation Highways Department. They successfully passed their trial period and eventually were discharged from order.

Clinic for the Mentally Subnormal

Arrangements were continued during the year for a consultant psychiatrist to attend a Local Authority Clinic to provide advice and help on the sub-normal patient.

Thirty seven patients attended 8 sessions held in the year and 5 failed to keep their appointments.

Training Centre

'The Crest' Training Centre provides facilities for sub-normal persons who have been notified to the Local Health Authority as unsuitable for education in school and for mentally handicapped adults to receive both training and occupation suitable to their abilities.

In the Junior Section, from the age of 5 to 15 years, the classes are mixed but for those aged 16 years and over, there are separate classes for men and women, each with a craft instructor of their own sex. All meet together for social activities, such as games and dancing.

The composition of the staff at the 31st December, was :-

- 1 Supervisor
- 1 Male Craft Instructor
- 1 Female Craft Instructor
- 3 Assistant Supervisors
- 1 General Assistant
- 1 Domestic

The Register at 'The Crest' at 31st December, was as follows:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 16 years	19	23	42
Over 16 years	21	20	41
	<u>40</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>83</u>

The average daily attendance was :-

Seniors 28

Juniors 35

i.e. a total daily average of 63.

The existing building is overcrowded and a new Junior Training Centre has been under construction during 1965.

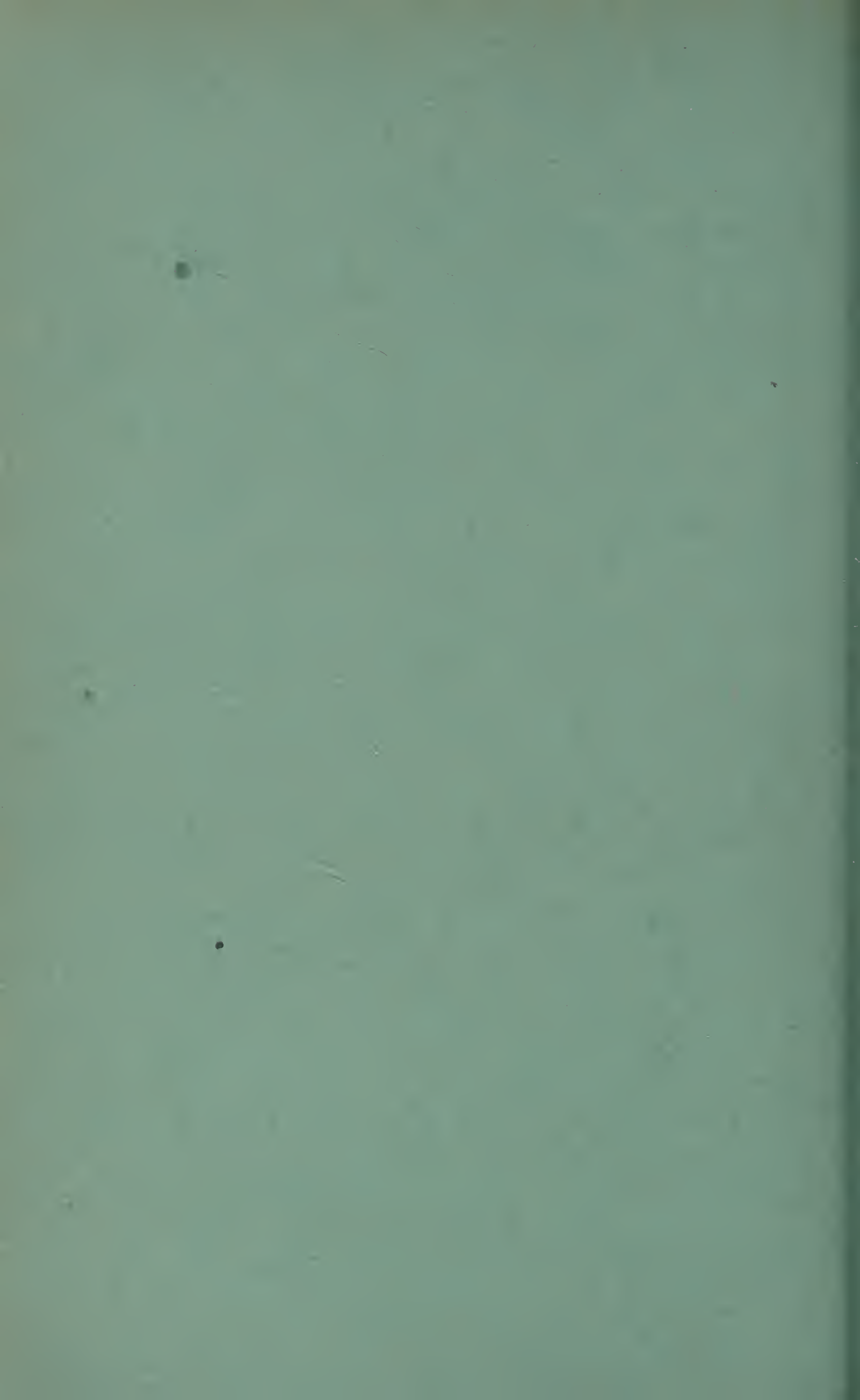
A holiday at Colwyn Bay was provided and spread over two weeks as last year with Juniors and Seniors in separate parties. This was a very happy holiday with excellent weather, and a visit by his Worship the Mayor was most popular. This holiday was provided in association with the West Bromwich Association for the Mentally Handicapped.

We had two open days in December, 1965, for parents and visitors and an added attraction was the showing of films of the holiday and school activities.

Various educational visits were undertaken during the year with emphasis on shopping in large and small stores.

PART 111
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Incidence and Mortality
Tuberculosis
Venereal Disease



INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Incidence

There were, 672 cases of notifiable disease (other than tuberculosis) notified or otherwise ascertained during the year.

The following table shows the number of notifications received during each of the last ten years :-

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	57	109	7	5	26	3	3	7	1	25
Acute encephalitis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
Erysipelas	1	1	2	2	-	-	3	-	2	-
Measles	25	1855	227	923	223	1160	188	807	330	541
Meningococcal Infection	3	2	1	-	2	-	-	1	2	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	1	1	2	2	3	1	1	2	3
Pneumonia	10	34	12	29	17	18	3	5	-	3
Poliomyelitis :										
Paralytic	2	5	-	3	4	10	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic	2	1	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	2	4	-	3	4	2	-	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	28	17	41	70	64	27	17	14	7	43
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Whooping cough	223	176	25	27	167	15	5	147	15	55
Paratyphoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	33	46	2	4	23	1	-	1	-	1

Deaths from Infectious Diseases

The following table shows the deaths attributable wholly or in part to infectious diseases during the last ten years :-

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Dysentery & Gastro enteritis	1	-	4	5	7	4	4	7	2	1
Acute infective encephalitis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Total	1	2	5	6	8	8	4	9	4	1

Dysentery

Twenty-five cases of dysentery were notified during the year. The illness was mild in character and there was no general spread of infection. During the year a number of specimens were taken from persons with symptoms but negative results were obtained.

Gastro Enteritis

One death occurred in a man aged 75

Measles

A total of 541 cases of measles was notified compared with 330 in the previous year and 807 cases in 1963. Measles was prevalent in alternate years but there has been a tendency for the extent of this variation to diminish in recent years.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

Only three cases were notified. The disease was mild and recovery uneventful and complete.

Pneumonia

Three cases of pneumonia were notified but obviously this cannot be taken to indicate the prevalence of pneumonia in the town because the only forms of pneumonia notifiable are acute primary and influenzal. Broncho-pneumonia (which is common) is not a notifiable disease.

Poliomyelitis

No cases were notified during 1965 and this is the fourth year in succession free from this infection. The continuing freedom depends on adequate vaccination against the disease.

Scarlet Fever

Forty-three cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year. Scarlet fever still continues to be a mild disease and notification is likely to be incomplete.

Whooping Cough

A total of 55 cases of whooping cough was notified.

It is most probable that this is a substantial underestimate of

the prevalence of the disease in the Borough as notification is likely to be incomplete.

No deaths occurred from this disease.

Smallpox

No cases occurred during 1965.

Meningococcal Meningitis

No children died from meningococcal meningitis.

TUBERCULOSIS

Dr. C.W.D. Cole the Consultant Chest Physician spends part of his time on the work of the prevention of the spread of tuberculosis in West Bromwich.

I am indebted to him for his co-operation in this and also for the following comments on the situation as he sees it on reviewing the work done during 1965.

"The year 1965 brought no changes in the services concerned with the prevention, care and after-care relating to tuberculosis in the County Borough of West Bromwich. The vast majority of in-patient treatment was carried out at Heath Lane Chest Clinic. One or two patients went to Prestwood Sanatorium and one was treated in the Special Diabetic Unit at Romsley Hill Hospital. Surgical treatment has been carried out at both the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Yardley Green Thoracic Surgical Centre.

Staff shortages in the Radiography Department at the Chest Clinic have occurred but without prolonged effect. I am always a little surprised at how calmly severe and chronic shortages in the medical ancillaries are viewed by the general public. The running of the hospital services depends to a great extent on these devoted persons and I hope that something can be done to foster an interest in these occupations in young women towards the end of their school careers.

As in previous years every out-patient at Heath Lane Hospital has his chest X-rayed at least annually. New out-patients at Hallam and the District Hospitals have their chests X-rayed and the Mass Radiography Service continues to operate for one day a week within the Borough Boundaries.

Private enterprise industrial firms arranged for 16,000 chest X-rays amongst their employees (one third of which were carried out at the firms' expense). It can be readily seen, therefore, that many citizens of West Bromwich had their chests X-rayed at some time or other in 1965.

Primary Notifications of Tuberculosis

Primary notifications from all sources for persons living within the Borough Boundaries during 1965 amounted to 19 men 11 women and 1 child, suffering from Respiratory Tuberculosis. Additionally a further 9 men 4 women and 4 children were found to be suffering

from tuberculosis of the non-respiratory type. This produces a grand total of 48 new cases. This is a fall of 10 cases from 1964 and is the lowest figure recorded in this Borough.

Comparable figures for the previous 8 years are shown as under:-

1958	..	..	..	66
1959	..	..	..	59
1960	..	..	..	68
1961	..	..	..	68
1962	..	..	..	86
1963	..	..	..	52
1964	..	..	..	58
1965	..	..	..	48

As in previous years a number of tuberculosis persons came to live in the Borough during 1965. Amongst them were 4 men, 4 women, and 2 children suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one man with a tuberculosis knee joint.

Deaths

In 1965 one man was diagnosed posthumously as having died from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and another man, a tramp who was taken ill in West Bromwich High Street, died twelve hours later of tuberculous broncho-pneumonia.

In addition 6 other men died of tuberculosis during the year. One young woman died of tuberculous meningitis. I am happy to report again that no children died of tuberculosis in any form. In addition to the above mentioned deaths 13 men and 2 women who were still attending the clinic for supervision died during the year. One of these was killed in a road accident; 4 died of carcinoma of the lung; 2 died of carcinoma of the stomach; 4 died of cardio-vascular disease; the remainder died of a variety of complaints. The total deaths from tuberculosis was 9 which is one more than in the previous two years and which is not indicative of a trend statistically.

Immigrants

As in previous years I commented on the incidence of tuberculosis in immigrants and think I ought to do so again this

year. The first point to make I think is that there were no cases of tuberculosis notified as occurring in Caribbean Immigrants either male or female. One Spanish girl developed tuberculosis of the non-respiratory type. The Asiatic group of immigrants however, again provided a major contribution to the numbers. Five men, 5 women and 1 child were found to have respiratory tuberculosis and 7 men, 1 woman and 3 children were found to have non-respiratory tuberculosis. Therefore 23 out of a total of 48 primary notifications occurred in immigrant persons – a total of 22 of them in Asiatics. This accounts for nearly 50% of the notifications. Of the 23 cases 14 of them were of the early recently infected type in persons who had resided in Britain for two years or more. No cases occurred which could be said to have been discoverable had the patient been examined prior to leaving the country of origin.

The picking up of contacts of immigrants is a time consuming and difficult business; they sometimes resent the appearance of the Health Visitor at their house, and once again I am sorry to say that the attendance of Asiatic contacts at the Chest Clinic for examination leaves a good deal to be desired. The attendance of the patients themselves, however, compares very favourably with the native citizens of West Bromwich. Having once grasped what is required of them they tend to be scrupulous in their attendance and drug taking. It has also been my impression this year that the Asiatic Community is more stable and changes of address and and job are far less frequent.

“Integration” as far as the Indian women are concerned is only a word and they tend to cling desparately to their own customs and usages – more especially when they are ill.

Treatment

There is little comment to be made under this heading. Hospital beds are freely available for the initial treatment of all patients and there is no justification whatever nowadays for home treatment other than in very exceptional circumstances. The Asiatics in particular need admission to hospital because of their overcrowded and often sub-standard domestic circumstances. The drugs available have remained the same as in previous years. Surgery has only been carried out on one patient suffering from respiratory tuberculosis although a number of non-respiratory cases have required the incision of abscesses. Three nephrectomies have also been carried out for tuberculosis.

Attendances

Total attendances at the Chest Clinic for 1965 were 10,282 – a rise of some 700 from the previous year. Of this number 1157 were new patients attending for the first time. Additionally 402 persons attended for X-ray examination only.

Prevention and after care

The West Bromwich After Care Committee now possesses a caravan situated at Highley. It is used for providing holidays, a week at a time, for patients of the chest clinic who need them. This has been a highly successful venture which has been in operation for 18 months. Patients are collected from their homes by volunteers from the Round Table and the Red Admiral Dog House Club. They are taken to the Caravan and returned to their homes the following week. Fortunately the weather has been reasonable for the last two summers and the Caravanners have enjoyed themselves enormously. I am delighted with the experiment and I am equally pleased to pay tribute here to the work of the volunteers of these two organisations without which we could not have operated. Whilst on this subject I must also thank the Dog House Club for their generosity over the past two Christmases when they donated lavish food hampers to a number of needy chest patients.

The after care of a patient who has been suffering from chronic respiratory disease does not stop at the provision of extra food and clothing – much more important is finding him or her a suitable job when he or she is fit to return to gainful employment. As a general rule a personal approach by the Chest Clinic to the firms concerned has produced satisfactory results in 1965. West Bromwich is fortunate in this respect and less than half a dozen patients fit for work have been out of work for more than a month.

I must stress the importance of housing in the prevention of the spread of tuberculosis. The Housing Committee have always listened with sympathy to recommendations and have always been generous in re-housing patients who genuinely require it on medical grounds. It is however sometimes not enough merely to re-house. It is necessary to consider the type of house and its location in relation to the proximity to work or other members of the family when dealing with respiratory cripples. Here I think perhaps more could be done.

The examination of contacts is another important aspect of the

prevention work done at the clinic. A total of 143 persons were seen as contacts during 1965. Sixtythree of them were children and 9 of them had positive reactions to Mantoux testing. Forty-four of the 54 negative reactors have so far been given B.C.G. and a further 8 are due to be vaccinated in the near future.

General Remarks

West Bromwich achieved its lowest notification rate ever in 1965. This in spite of the fact that 50% of the cases occurring were in immigrants. The continued falling incidence is in line with both national and European trends. More important perhaps is that it corresponds to the incidence in most of the neighbouring areas. Hospital beds are freely available and the outlook for the tuberculous patient is increasingly rosy. Improved living standards; better conditions; full employment; education and medical advances are all influencing this trend. Housing is probably the most important factor. Scrupulous case finding with the isolation and treatment of such cases may well lead to the virtual elimination of the disease in British native citizens. Efforts to eliminate imported tuberculosis must be intensified.

Lastly, as ever, I tender my grateful thanks to my colleagues in the hospital world; in general practice and in the Public Health Department for their co-operation and courtesy to me and my department in 1965, without them it would be impossible to achieve the results obtained."

VENEREAL DISEASE

Details of the new cases of venereal disease in West Bromwich residents treated during 1965 at the General Hospital, Birmingham, and the Guest Hospital, Dudley, are given below together with figures for 5 previous years :-

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Syphilis	6	21	9	8	7	6
Gonorrhoea ..	38	71	56	45	49	37
Conditions other than venereal ..	59	202	79	98	63	75
Total :	103	294	144	151	119	118

This does not necessarily represent the full extent of venereal disease as patients treated elsewhere than at hospital clinics (e.g. by the own doctors) are not known to this department.

PART IV
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Health Education
Rehousing on Medical Grounds
Medical Examinations
Nursing Homes
Home Safety
Co-ordination of Services dealing
with Child Neglect
Cost of the Services

HEALTH EDUCATION

Leaflets, posters and pamphlets are available in the Health Department and in Clinics. Education of the individual takes place at Infant Welfaré Centres by the Nursing Staff working there, but little has been done during the year to organise other meetings of people for this purpose. No specific staff are employed for the purposes of Health Education or its organisation.

During the year a study group was formed with members of the teaching staff of schools to enquire into the aims of Health Education for various age groups of children and to make suggestions to teaching staff on activities that could be included as part of the normal curriculum of a school. This group met regularly during the year but did not report until after the end of the year.

Posters showing details for treatment of venereal disease were exhibited in public lavatories. No specified Health Education on the subject of Smoking and Lung Cancer was carried out apart from posters and advice to individuals by members of the staff in the course of their normal duties.

In general, therefore, apart from personal advice very little Health Education has been carried out.

REHOUSING ON MEDICAL GROUNDS

The allocation of medical points to those applicants for Corporation tenancies who submit medical evidence of illness, in their immediate family, was commenced in 1964. Inevitably, a very large number of applications (427) was received during that year. In 1965 the number fell to 163. No applicants received the maximum of 25 points. In 26 cases, 10 or more medical points were awarded and in 122 cases the award was between 3 and 10 points. Fifteen applicants were considered to have no grounds for medical points.

Applications concerning tuberculosis were forwarded to Dr. Cole, the Chest Physician, who awarded points in 3 cases. Dr. Cole continues to make his own urgent recommendations to the Housing Committee where an award of points is not sufficient to secure a tenancy for a family in which there is infectious tuberculosis.

Recommendations to the Housing Committee are also made by the Medical Officer of Health in exceptional cases of serious illness which do not qualify for a Corporation tenancy, even with the maximum award of medical points. Three such recommendations were made in 1965, and rehousing was agreed by the Committee in each case.

Apart from the medical points forms, letters from general practitioners and consultants continued to arrive at the Housing and Health Departments, recommending transfers for Corporation tenants, or special types of accommodation for families being rehoused under slum clearance.

These were considered at the weekly conference between the Deputy Housing Manager and the Deputy Medical Officer of Health, which had been commenced towards the end of 1963. This weekly meeting has proved so helpful that it has become the main means of communication between the two departments and has ensured very close co-operation. The information given by the Deputy Housing Manager about the circumstances of each case, when considered in conjunction with the doctors' letters has enabled decisions to be made in the majority of cases without further investigation. Where necessary, however, interviews have been granted, visits made by medical officers, health visitors and public health inspectors, and reports furnished by mental welfare officers and welfare officers concerned with the elderly and the handicapped.

During the year 352 cases were considered at the conferences, and 93 medical recommendations were made for transfers, or special accommodation for slum clearance families.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Children's Department

The Medical Staff of the Health Department are responsible for the routine medical examination of children in the care of the Local Authority. They do not, however, provide treatment for those who are ill. This is done by general practitioners. Medical Officers see these children prior to admission and just before discharge. They also pay regular visits to the Charlemont Nursery and Reception Home and visit the Family Group Homes.

Altogether 207 medical examinations were carried out and these can be classified as follows:-

	Reception Home	Nursery	Family Group Home
Number of children examined on admission	34	10	11
Number of children examined for boarding out	-	1	2
Number of children examined on discharge	18	8	11
Number of routine examinations			
0 - 1 year	-	34	-
1 - 5 years	1	45	-
over 5 years	21	2	9

Corporation Staff

The Medical Officer of Health and his staff advise on the medical fitness of staff before appointment and for the purpose of the sickness and accident scheme.

Newly appointed staff are not subject to a medical examination if they complete satisfactorily a declaration form relating to their past illnesses. Those involved in occupations dealing with young children, food, medical, nursing and dental services are subject to a satisfactory X-ray before appointment.

The work done during 1965 was as follows:-

Examination before appointment

A total of 145 officers completed satisfactory declarations of health and were accepted without medical examination.

Medical examinations	48
Accepted	45
Deferred for re-examination	3

Examination for Sickness and Accident Scheme

A total of 239 servants completed satisfactory declarations of health and were accepted without medical examination.

Medical examinations	114
Accepted	79
Deferred for re-examination	22
Failed	13

Examination of applicants for admission to training college or for employment as teachers.

Medical examinations	100
Accepted	94

The value of this work is in my view doubtful, for most of those employed do not need a high standard of fitness to undertake their work.

The need for medical enquiries is particularly bad on officers with extensive Local Government Service coming from other authorities who possess defects which may lead to breakdown in future years, but do not at the time interfere with their employment. Such officers have difficulty in being accepted because of the individual arrangements of each Authority.

NURSING HOMES

The last remaining Nursing Home in the Borough closed during the year.

HOME SAFETY

Very little education was carried out on Home Safety as a formal activity. Health Visitors (well below strength) constantly drew attention to the risks in relation to inadequate fireguards or heating apparatus, particularly in houses in multiple occupation. There are no staff specifically employed to undertake duties in connection with the education of the public in matters of Home Safety, but the Accident Prevention Officer does give assistance from time to time.

CO-ORDINATION OF SERVICES DEALING WITH THE PREVENTION OF CHILD NEGLECT

Regular meetings of Officers have taken place at monthly intervals under the Chairmanship of the Medical Officer of Health, with the Children's Officer acting as Deputy Chairman. The Purpose of these meetings is to reduce overlapping of visiting and provide for the dissemination of information concerning families receiving services from a variety of social agencies. At these meetings the following were represented:-

Chief Nursing Officer
The Children's Officer
Director of Education
The Family Case Worker
Housing Manager
Inspector of the National Society for the prevention of Cruelty
to children
The Probation Officer
Town Clerk's Department
Mental Health Officers
Superintendent of the West Bromwich Division of the
Constabulary
The Manager of the National Assistance Board

A case conference was also held monthly consisting of the Deputy Housing Manager, the Family Case Worker, N.S.P.C.C. Inspector and the Deputy Children's Officer, with of course other officers in attendance if necessary, depending on the case discussed. These officers met to discuss in detail cases referred to them by the main meeting. By this means it was possible to take a limited number of families and spend considerably more time in discussing their complicated problems and determining the best ways in which they could be helped.

FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

Water supplies to the Borough are provided by two water under-takings. The City of Birmingham provide water supplies to part of the Great Barr and Hamstead areas and this supply contains added fluorides. Supplies to the remainder of the Borough are provided by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company which serves an extensive area of the south part of the West Midlands. These supplies are not fluoridated:

The Council accepted the principal of the addition of fluoride to the water supply.

COST OF THE SERVICES

The cost of the services provided under the National Health Service Act, The National Assistance Act and other health services during the year, is shown compared with the cost of the previous ten years in the following table:-

	Local Health Services		Welfare Service		Other Health Services (Refuse Collection Prevention of disease etc.)	
	National Health Service Act 1946.		National Assistance Act, 1948			
Financial Year	Gross Cost	Cost per 1,000 pop.	Gross Cost	Cost per 1,000 pop	Gross Cost	Cost per 1,000 pop
1953/54	61,911	703	24,479	278	71,418	811
1954/55	64,525	724	28,781	323	70,082	787
1955/56	69,931	777	32,298	359	84,079	934
1956/57	81,294	893	36,823	404	91,861	1,009
1957/58	86,862	931	46,559	500	98,772	1,062
1958/59	97,514	1,037	52,212	555	100,880	1,073
1959/60	112,088	1,192	60,692	645	111,371	1,184
1960/61	119,374	1,256	67,040	705	112,426	1,184
1961/62	133,722	1,376	81,383	839	131,033	1,350
1962/63	149,218	1,522	94,345	962	132,552	1,352
1963/64	173,791	1,779	105,325	1,078	147,664	1,511
1964/65	200,327	2,052	112,657	1,154	183,206	1,877

PART V
WELFARE SERVICES

Care of the Aged
Care of the Handicapped
Other Welfare Services

WELFARE SERVICES

General Arrangements

The Authority's functions in this field under the National Assistance Act, 1948 are discharged through the Welfare Committee. The administration is under the direction of the Director of Welfare Services who is also the Medical Officer of Health.

The staff excluding those at residential establishments and cleaning staff at the Social Centre at 31st December, 1965 consisted of:-

- 1 Chief Welfare Services Officer
- 1 Senior Social Welfare Officer
- 4 Social Welfare Officers
- 4 Welfare Assistants
- 1 Trainee Welfare Officer
- 1 Home Teacher for the Blind
- 1 Senior Craft Instructor
- 1 Occupational Therapist
- 3 Craft Instructors
- 1 Warden – Social Centre

The duties relating to the deaf were carried out by the agency of the Church mission to the Deaf, Walsall, acting on behalf of the Corporation.

Care of the Aged

In June 1964 it was estimated that there were some 8,400 persons in the Borough over the age of 65 years. A corresponding figure for 1965 is not available but there would not be a significant difference. The department has records of a total of 957 who for various reasons have come to notice. Not all persons over 65 have need of special services and the difficulty is finding those who do.

Welfare Services

In general a local authority has powers to provide directly only a few services for the elderly. There is a duty to provide accommodation for those in special need and arrangements for meals and recreation are permissive. For both these services charges can be made and in respect of accommodation national regulations exist with regard to minimum charges.

Local authorities may assist voluntary bodies providing meals and recreational facilities for the elderly by grants of money, equipment or use of premises and vehicles (including drivers and caretakers).

Residential Accommodation

The important event of the year was the opening of Bromford House, a purpose built home for 52 elderly persons situated in Bromford Lane. His Worship the Mayor opened this home in October 1965.

Accommodation under Part 111 of the National Assistance Act, (1948) is provided directly by the Corporation at:-

- "The Hawthorns", Green Lane, Great Barr.
for 21 elderly ladies
- "Beech Holme", Beeches Road, West Bromwich.
for 20 elderly men
- "Lyndon House", Scott Street, West Bromwich.
for 31 elderly persons
either sex
- "Greenside House", Greenside Way, Yew Tree Est.
for 42 elderly persons
either sex
- "The Willows", 34, Bridge Street, West Bromwich.
for 10 elderly men
- "Clarkes Lane", 66, Clarkes Lane, West Bromwich.
for 10 elderly ladies
- "Bromford House", Moor Street, West Bromwich.
for 52 elderly persons
either sex

There are three blocks of elderly persons' flatlets provided by the Housing Committee. Each accommodates 22 persons and has a resident warden provided by the Welfare Committee.

They are :-

- "Newport House", Monmouth Drive,
Hateley Heath, West Bromwich.
- "Sandfield House", Walsall Road,
Stone Cross, West Bromwich.
- "Bramley House", Redwood Road,
Yew Tree Estate, Walsall.

At the end of 1965 the number of residents in Part 111 Accommodation was as follows:-

	Men	Women	In Hospital	
			M	F
"The Hawthorns"	-	15	-	4
"Beech Holme"	19	-	4	-
"Lyndon House"	7	21	-	2
"Greenside House"	20	21	3	2
"The Willows"	6	-	1	1
66, Clarkes Lane	-	8	-	1
"Bromford House"	21	24	3	1
	<u>73</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>

The general position at the end of the year was that 186 beds were provided for old persons (this is the extent of the provision made by the Welfare Committee and excludes the provision made by the Health Committee for the elderly mentally disordered).

The waiting list on 31st December, 1965 was 6 males and 21 females.

The homes are intended to be run with regard for the individual resident. Visiting is not restricted and free change of doctor permitted. Hairdressing and chiropody are provided. Birthday cards, Christmas cards and presents etc., are sent to each resident and the Christmas festivities included a party held at the Social Centre. Throughout the rest of the year a number of outings, films and live shows are made available for those who wish to participate. Extra comforts (sweets, tobacco and beer) are issued.

Holidays for residents of the homes are arranged directly by the Welfare Committee and in September 32 went to 3 Guest Houses in Paignton.

In addition to the old persons in the Council's own homes, others are maintained in local authority or voluntary homes elsewhere, usually because they have established ties with other areas or the home provides special facilities.

These are as follows :-

	Men	Women
Hampton Grange, Hereford	1	-
Highbury Hall, Birmingham	-	1
The Poplars, Wolverhampton	-	1
Beech Croft, Smethwick	-	1
St. Mary's, Stone	-	1
Tate House, Harrogate	1	-
Southerndown, Wales	-	1
New Morton, Hastings	1	-
Aigburth, Leicester	1	-
St. Joseph's Convent, Wolverhampton	-	1
Priceholme, Scarborough	-	2
Botton Hall, Danby	1	-

Finance

The full cost to the Corporation per resident in directly maintained homes was estimated at £8/2/8 at 31st December, 1965 and 97 residents without private means were paying the minimum charge of £3/4/0 per week. Forty-eight were paying a proportion of the full charge, whilst 16 were paying the full cost. Each resident received a minimum of 16/- per week pocket money.

The following table gives information about the number of admissions and discharges from 1st January, 1965 to 31st December, 1965.

	Brom- ford House	Green- side House	Lyndon House	The Haw- thorns	Beech Holme	Clarkes Lane	The Willows
No of beds	52	42	31	21	20	10	10
No of admissions	60	22	14	5	7	3	12
No of re-admissions from hospital	2	3	3	2	-	-	-
* No of discharges	8	9	8	4	4	2	8
No of deaths	5	10	10	4	3	3	7
Per cent of beds occupied	-	95.7%	96.6%	89.1%	94.5%	86.5%	83.5%

* Discharges include admissions to hospital for long term care.

A total of 80% of all admissions were to ground floor beds. Ground floor beds (or beds served by a lift) account however, for only 58% of the total. The sex proportion was 45% males and 55% females and the average age was 78. The average length of stay was 37 months excluding temporary admissions.

Staffing

There was little change in the senior staff of the homes.

Voluntary Organisations

The West Bromwich Old People's Welfare Committee is active with 10 Over 60 Clubs in the Borough.

The Womens Voluntary Service also runs a Darby and Joan Club.

Meals on Wheels

The Womens Voluntary Service continued this service and delivered an average of 155 meals per week.

For the financial year ended 31st March, 1965 the Corporation made a grant of £665/6/9 to the service and the meals were purchased from the Civic Restaurant at 2s. 2d. each, and the cost to each recipient, except one who paid the full cost was 10d.

The number of meals supplied during the year rose to 7,640 which is an increase of 1,571 over the previous year's figure.

Sons of Rest

There are eight such homes in the Borough and men over the age of 65 and not in full employment may apply for membership. Each home organises its own affairs.

Membership

Home	Number on Register	Days Open per week	Weekly Average Attendance
Dartmouth Park	78	5	290
Friar Park	44	4	120
Hamstead	34	4	100
Eli Fletcher	75	6	300
Oakwood Park	62	5	160
Eliza Corbett	75	6	170
Kenrick Park	18	5	40
Farley Park	54	6	150
	440	41	1,330

There was a slight decrease in membership although the average weekly attendance remains almost the same.

All the homes were again active during the year and completed for trophies in dominoes, snooker and crib leagues.

The usual outings, annual dinner, birthday parties, carol services and the annual get-together were again very much enjoyed and appreciated.

Care of the Blind

The number of registered blind persons in the Borough, in age groups, is as follows :-

	5-10 yrs	11-15 yrs	21-29 yrs	30-39 yrs	40-49 yrs	50-59 yrs	60-64 yrs	65-69 yrs	70-79 yrs	80-84 yrs	85-89 yrs	90+ yrs	Total
Male	1	1	4	1	7	13	6	4	11	9	3	1	61
Female	-	-	1	2	1	5	3	5	19	13	4	2	55
Total	1	1	5	3	8	18	9	9	30	22	7	3	116

This gives a total of 116 persons registered blind. Twelve men and sixteen women died during the year and seven men and nine women were certified blind. The following table shows the age and sex distribution of those certified:-

	40-49	60-65	70-79	80-84	85-89	Total
Male.	2	3	-	1	1	7
Female	-	1	4	2	2	9
Total	2	4	4	3	3	16

Residential Care

At the end of the year there were 3 blind persons in homes for the elderly, two in homes run for the blind by other agencies.

Employment

At the end of 1965 the following were employed in the workshops of the City of Birmingham:-

- 3 Fitters and Assemblers
- 1 Miscellaneous Worker
- 2 Brush Makers
- 1 Boot and shoe repairer
- 1 Piano Tuner

There were two people in the home workers scheme:-

- 1 Basket Maker
- 1 Salesman

and nine blind people were known to be employed in open industry:-

- 1 Proprietor (Haulage)
- 1 Craft Instructor
- 2 Gardeners
- 1 Typist
- 1 Storekeeper
- 2 Machine Tool Operators
- 1 Labourer

Blind Persons with other disabilities

Male Female	Mentally Sub Normal	Physically Defective	Deaf without Speech	Deaf with Speech	Hard of Hearing	Total
Male	1	7	1	1	9	19
Female	3	2	-	1	2	8
Total	4	9	1	2	11	27

Partially Sighted Register

The total number of partially sighted persons registered in West Bromwich was 39. The following table shows age and sex distribution. This does not represent the total number of the partially sighted:-

Years	5-15	16-20	21-49	50-64	65 & over	Total
Male	4	3	-	2	6	15
Female	3	1	2	1	17	24
Total	7	4	2	3	23	39

Visiting

A total of 1,127 visits was made to blind and partially sighted persons in their own homes during the year.

Teaching in the Home

During the year one person was given Braille lessons and completed the course and is now able to read and write. Only a few handcraft lessons were given in the home as most of the people interested were able to attend the Social Centre.

Training and Employment

During the year one person was sent for a course of industrial rehabilitation at a centre in Torquay.

After Care

Twelve people received grants from the Birmingham Royal Institute for the Blind after-care fund. The total sum of money received in these grants was £46/7/9.

Holidays

This year the blind went to four guest houses in Paignton. A total of 31 blind and 29 guides, 3 children and 2 staff attended the holiday.

Guide Dogs

No applications have been made for a guide dog this year, though one man is still waiting to undertake his training.

Talking Books

Two people received talking books during the year.

Wireless

Wireless services with the Birmingham Royal Institute for Blind have continued to work very satisfactorily throughout the year.

Social Activities

Each Tuesday a social gathering (averaging 12 persons) was held at the Social Centre. On Thursdays a group (average 22 persons) meet for craft work and once a month an average of 27 meet in the evening for social and recreational purposes. Transport is provided.

Summer Trip

On the 29th June, 1965 a summer trip was arranged to Ludlow. It was attended by 44 blind, 37 guides, 3 children and 2 staff.

Christmas Party

On Tuesday 27th December, 1965 the annual Christmas Party for the Blind was held at the Social Centre. It was a great success and was attended by 49 blind and 39 guides.

Large Print Books

The Public Library has available for loan a number of books with specially large print suitable for partially sighted or elderly persons.

Welfare of the Deaf and Dumb

The welfare of the deaf and dumb has been provided as in previous years by the Church Mission to the Deaf and Dumb, Walsall, under the Missioner.

The numbers of deaf registered in West Bromwich 1965 were as follows :-

Classification	Male	Female	Total
Deaf without Speech	14	16	30
Deaf with Speech	11	2	13
Hard of Hearing	5	8	13
Total	30	26	56

The weekly social club is held at the Social Centre, and the Mission for the Deaf, Walsall, is utilized by the West Bromwich deaf for Religious services and some social activities. Other activities include football, cricket matches and a week's holiday. The Christmas Party was held in the Social Centre at which approximately 40 deaf or hard of hearing persons attended.

Physically Handicapped

At the end of the year the number of persons registered physically handicapped in West Bromwich was 681. This was a decrease of 70 over the previous year.

Physically Handicapped persons are grouped into a total of five groups.

These are defined as follows :-

Group A Physically Handicapped persons (other than children) who though possibly needing training for some occupations are capable of work under ordinary industrial conditions.

- Group B

Physically Handicapped persons (other than children) who are incapable of work under ordinary industrial conditions but who are mobile and capable of work in sheltered workshops.
- Group C

Physically Handicapped persons (other than children) who are incapable of work under ordinary industrial conditions and who are insufficiently mobile for work in sheltered workshops, but who are capable of work at home.
- Group D

Physically Handicapped persons (other than children) who are incapable of work or not available for work.
- Group E

Physically Handicapped persons who are school children under the age of 16 years and whose needs are likely to be met under the enactments, but for whom the local authority has general responsibility under section 29 of the act.

The numbers in each group at the end of 1965 were as follows:-

Group	Total 31.12.64	Additions 1965	Total	Deaths	Moved out of area	TRANSFERS				Total	Total 1965
						Blind	Other	Removals	Part III		
A	125	4	129	2	2	-	4		1	9	120
B	16	1	17	-	-	-	-		-	-	17
C	4	-	4	1	-	-	-		-	1	3
D	516	28	544	53	7	1	3		7	71	473
E	90	-	90	2	-	-	20		-	22	68
	751	33	784	58	9	1	27		8	103	681

The analysis of the age groups is as follows :-

	Children under 16	16-64	65 & Over	Total
Males	34	193	86	313
Females	34	151	183	368
Total	68	344	269	681

The 681 cases known to the department can be classified as suffering from disabilities as shown in the following table:-

Disability	COD- ING	A	B	C	D	E	Total
Amputations	A/E	10	-	1	20	-	31
Arthritis and Rheumatism	F	4	1	-	124	-	129
Congenital Malformations and and Deformities	G	19	2	-	12	21	54
Diseases of the Digestive and Genito-Urinary Systems of Heart or Circulatory System of the Respiratory System (other than tuberculosis)	H/L	27	2	-	206	24	259
Injuries of Head, face, neck, thorax, abdomen, pelvis, or trunk injuries or diseases (other than tuberculosis) of the upper and lower limbs and spine.	Q/T	23	2	1	51	2	79
Organic, nervous, epilepsy, polio, hemiplegia, etc.	V	28	9	1	41	14	93
Mental disorders	V/W	2	-	-	4	-	6
Tuberculosis : Respiratory	X	3	-	-	4	-	7
Non Respiratory	Y	4	-	-	4	5	13
Diseases and injuries not specified above	Z	-	1	-	7	2	10
Totals		120	17	3	473	68	681

The number of known cases of epilepsy in the Borough was 40 consisting of 16 men, 11 women, 10 boys, 3 girls. There were also

82 known cases of cerebral palsy (including hemiplegia) 66 adults and 16 children (8 boys, 8 girls).

Wheelchairs and Motorized Vehicles

Six applications were made to the Ministry of Pensions for Wheelchairs for handicapped persons and five were successful. Three applications were made for motorized invalid vehicles and three patients have now received their vehicles. There were three cases submitted to the Ministry for the replacement of vehicles over 7 years old and two of these have now been replaced.

Car Badges for Disabled Persons

Twenty five car badges were issued by the Corporation to severely handicapped persons to identify their vehicles when parked.

Holidays – 1965

The Welfare Committee organized a week's holiday for the physically handicapped which took place in September at a holiday camp at Prestatyn. A total of 184 adults, 7 children together with 11 staff attended. The numbers were made up as follows :-

146 Physically Handicapped

38 Escorts

7 Children

11 Staff

202

The net cost after allowing for contributions from participants was £1,182.10s.11d.

Social Activities

There is an active voluntary association – The West Bromwich Association for the Welfare of the Physically Handicapped, and also a club for the physically handicapped organized by a committee of handicapped persons (The Fellowship of New Horizons). The latter is assisted by the Corporation with transport and the use of the Social Centre without charge.

Both hold numerous activities and 27 handicapped persons and 27 escorts went on a holiday arranged by the West Bromwich Association for the Welfare of the Physically Handicapped in September.

Day Centres

These are principally for elderly persons housebound by physical infirmity, held at the Social Centre.

<u>Day Centre</u>	<u>No.on Register</u>	<u>Average Attendance</u>
Monday	14	11
Wednesday	16	12
Friday	16	13

Persons attending the Day Centre are collected from their homes at 10.0 a.m. and returned home at 4.30 p.m. in the Corporation Tail Lift 'buses. A mid-day meal is provided towards which they pay 1s. 5d. per meal. The programme covers a varied field, e.g. knitting, bingo, whist and beetle drives and film shows. Two outings for a day each were organized and a Christmas Party. The expenses of the outings were met by those attending.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Staff

The centre had a full complement of staff at the end of the year – though the following appointments have been made during the year as follows :-

Senior Craft Instructor, Occupational Therapist, Clerk/Storekeeper, Temporary Clerk.

Classes

During the year classes were held in the West Bromwich Social Centre and group activities included flower arrangements and art. There were 12,723 attendances and the register has stood at an average of 76 during the year. Four patients have left the centre classes to be re-employed in the community.

Domiciliary Work

Changes in staff reduced the extent of this activity in the Old People's Homes, but in spite of this 200 visits were made for the purpose of craft instruction. The visiting of the elderly in old persons homes was affected by staff changes and only 49 visits have been made.

Social Activities for those attending Craft Classes

Two outings were arranged during the year, one to the Bulb Fields at Spalding and the other to London Airport. The annual Christmas Dinner for 87 patients was cooked and served by the staff on December, 16th, the cost being defrayed by gifts and contributions.

This year the Handicapped persons had stalls at the Summer Fair and Festival of Youth, both held in Dartmouth Park. Work was again entered in competitions at the Horticultural Show and patients won two first prizes in the Crochet and Embroidery section open to the general public.

Transport

During 1965 two buses with Tail lifts were in service and the number of passengers transported was as follows:-

For :-

Occupational Therapy	4796
Club for the Blind	2970
Day Centres	1947
New Horizons Club for the Physically Handicapped	1982

Activities sponsored by the Health Committee:-

Circle of Friendship (Club for Mentally Ill)	904
The Crest Training Centre	9202

Total number of persons conveyed	21,801
----------------------------------	--------

The approximate total mileage for the year was 34,129

Events arranged by:-

Welfare Department accounted for 13,432 miles

New Horizons Club and West
Bromwich Association for the
Welfare of the Physically
Handicapped, accounted for 2,203 miles

Use by Health Committee 18,494

One of the special 'buses was used for the holiday for the physically handicapped at Prestatyn and the mileage for the week was 335.

The Health Committee pay the proportion of the costs involved in the journeys on their behalf.

Ministerial Visit

It is pleasing to record the visit of the Minister of Health to the Social Centre on 21.9.65.

PART VI

General Hygiene

Housing

Air and Factory Hygiene

Food Hygiene and Control

Public Cleansing and Salvage

STAFF OF THE HYGIENE AND CLEANSING DEPARTMENT

as at 31st December, 1965.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent	S. Cayton (a) (b) (c) (e) (f) (g)
* Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	E.A. Siggers, LL.B. (a) (b) (c) (d) (k)
Senior Public Health Inspectors:	
Air Hygiene and Factories	J.G. Kelly (a) (b) (c) (d) (h) (to 7.2.65) G.W. Aston (a) (b) (d)
Meat Inspection	N.H. Owen (a) (b)
¢ District	S.W. Hogg (a) (b) (d) (k)
Specialist Public Health Inspectors:	
Housing	C.C. Buxton (a) (b) (d)
Meat Inspection	N.W. Crosby (a) (b) (From 8.3.65) K.A. Webster (a) (b) (From 15.3.65 to 12.12.65) C.N. Johnson (a)
District Public Health Inspectors:	D.G. Hunt (a) (b) (d) (From 10.5.65)
* Seconded to Ministry of Housing and Local Govern- ment from. 1.5.65.	M. Moore (o) (From 1.9.65 to 30.11.65)
¢ Acting Deputy Chief Insp- ector from 1.5.65.	D. Parish (a) (b) (From 1.8.65)

K.B. Dorman
(a) (b) from 1.12.65

Technical Assistants:

Factories, Shops and Offices

N.J. Fearn (k)

District

W. Owen (k) (e)

Housing

D. Nelson (k)
(From 2.8.65)

Food Hygiene

J.B. Potter (n)

Authorised Meat Officers:

F. McHugh (j)
(To 31.1.65)

J. Low (j)
(From 1.5.65 to 30.6.65)

J. Greenhalgh (m)
(From 6.9.65)

Pupil Public Health Inspectors:

B. Wedgbury
(To 31.12.65)

G. Wildsmith
(From 1.7.65)

C.R. Allan
(From 1.7.65 to 30.9.65)

G.L. Adams
(From 1.6.65)

Assistant Cleansing Superintendent

S. Johnson, D.F.C.
(g)

Cleansing Inspector

K.J. Bellmore
(To 9.5.65)

S. Hunter (From 1.5.65)

ADMINISTRATIVE

Chief Clerk

C.S. Stokes

Shorthand Typist and Chief Public
Health Inspector's Secretary

Miss. E.M. Taylor

Junior Clerks

Miss. J.E. Withington
(To 11.5.65)

Miss. S.M. Jeffs

Miss. S. Barnfield
(From 1.7.65)

Q U A L I F I C A T I O N S

- (a) Certificate of the Royal Society of Health and Public Health Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.
- (b) Certificate of the Royal Society of Health for Meat and Food Inspectors.
- (c) Certificate of the Royal Society of Health for Sanitary Science.
- (d) Certificate of the Royal Society of Health for Smoke Inspectors.
- (e) Member of the Institute of Fuel.
- (f) Royal Society of Health Certificate for Advanced Knowledge of Public Health Inspector's Duties.
- (g) Testamur of the Institute of Public Cleansing.
- (h) Member of the Institute of Meat.
- (j) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Association of Scotland for Inspection of Meat and Meat Products.
- (k) National Certificate in Building
- (l) City and Guilds of London, Full Technological Certificate in Plumbers' Work.
- (m) Certificate of the Royal Society of Health in Meat Inspection.
- (n) Certificate of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.
- (o) Royal Society of Health (Overseas Public Health Inspector's certificate.)

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, 1965

To the Chairman and Members of the

HYGIENE AND CLEANSING COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

This is the last annual report on the work of the department in the West Bromwich which we have known for so many years. Though it is tempting to look at what has been achieved, particularly in my own term of office, this must be put aside and the reports I have presented since 1955 be allowed to speak for themselves. Instead, and before examining generally the achievements and shortcomings of the year as revealed by the statistics which follow, let us look at the tasks ahead in the enlarged West Bromwich.

Much time and thought has been devoted to arranging a smooth transition for staff and ratepayers. There has been trepidation and misgiving for both but now that the heavy toil and burning of the midnight oil is behind we have emerged so much more mature for the experience, and possibly that much better prepared for further changes which may come the faster as we succeed in our present assignment.

To increase population by 100% or near it would not generally increase every problem proportionately but we face a substantial increase in meat inspection because of the location of certain major meat manufacturing and bacon curing premises, besides the addition of a large poultry dressing and packing factory. Refuse collection and disposal will increase proportionately and food premises will rise in number by something similar. The slum clearance programme nearing completion will again become a major concern of the department and compared with a residue of about 500 houses outstanding on December 31st, 1965, will rise fivefold in the years immediately ahead. So far as domestic air pollution is concerned we find ourselves with 10,000 premises already subject to Smoke Control. This seems no mean achievement in the 10

years since the Clean Air Act became operative but there remains more than 40,000 premises. Surely we must find the means and the way to completion much more quickly than 40 years hence! We live in an area where the working of metals both ferrous and non-ferrous predominates. Where castings of all shapes and sizes are produced for the motor and other growing industries. Cupola furnaces are numerous because they are the means for melting metal cheaply but the West Midlands is made drab by the grit and dust deposits on streets and buildings from these and other industries. Until domestic and industrial discharges are reduced to the absolute minimum so long will we wait for a clean town fit to live and work in.

I return now to the salient features of the annual report set out on the following pages.

Meat Inspection

Despite the embarrassment frequently caused to the work of other sections of the department a 100% inspection of all food animals slaughtered in the district is maintained at all times. This is particularly important as the figures set out later in the report show that one animal in every four slaughtered showed some signs of disease necessitating action by the inspector concerned before he could release it for human consumption.

As we have large slaughtering establishments in our charge it is possible to provide specimens for veterinary research as well as post-mortem information to veterinarians working in the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. We are happy to co-operate also with veterinary surgeons in private practice and make available to them the great mass of information that we acquire from the post-mortem examinations of more than a quarter million animals annually. With this amount of experience and knowledge of the subject it should be possible to convince importing countries on the continent of Europe that a certificate of a British public health inspector is a reliable guarantee of fitness of any carcase meat exported to them.

A new export trade in fresh meat is being developed with Europe which is, of course, welcome but the British exporter already pays for the certification of his meat by the local authority and he should not be further charged with the cost of a veterinary certificate which can only duplicate the former.

Foreign Bodies in Food

Large scale food manufacture is still bedevilled by accidents to equipment both stationary and moving and to the workers many of whom do with their hands much that cannot be performed by the best of machines. These accidents sometimes result in harmless foreign bodies appearing in manufactured foods. Sometimes they are dangerous and always very objectionable. The problems of the trade are appreciated and understood but whilst the genuine accident can usually be identified there are times when the condition of food premises indicates careless management and it is then that consideration must be given to prosecution and subsequent publicity in the Courts. This is distasteful for all concerned.

Food Hygiene

It is gratifying to record after so much complaining that we have this year substantially improved our supervision of food premises but it still only averages two visits each per annum. The summary of trades and their numbers set out on another page indicates those which predominate but some of the lesser numbers relate to major factories whose full supervision requires expert knowledge of the industry and the manufacturing processes involved. This is particularly true of the bakehouses which, though few in number, include very large establishments which are highly mechanised. At the top of the list are the licensed houses and supervision of the washing of glasses has been extended to swabbing of washed glass with generally satisfactory results.

Food Quality Control

This section is this year's "Cinderella". The number of samples taken at 72 is too few to be considered effective control though the sampling which has been done is objective and very selective. The resulting relatively high proportion of unsatisfactory samples indicates a need for greater activity though it can be justly recorded that no sample reveals adulteration.

Housing

The number of houses built by the authority was the highest since the slum clearance programme began in 1955 but the number of houses recommended for demolition was the lowest. This was

mainly due to the loss of very experienced officers but also to the fact that no large areas of unfit properties remain and the administrative work for small areas is much the same as for large ones. It is of interest, however, to record that 13,652 men, women and children have been rehoused from unfit properties since 1955. This is about 15% of the town's average population over ten years. In our impatience for the redevelopment of cleared sites, we are apt to forget the squalid dwellings which have been swept away and the many families which have benefited from removal to clean, dry and comfortable homes.

Responsibilities for ensuring that all houses are fit for occupation is one of our most important functions and with this goes the assessment of prospective "life" of a property for the guidance of purchasers and the Borough Treasurer in the lending of money on property on behalf of the Corporation. This is a complex matter which is made more difficult because of the opportunities for redevelopment which follow from an active slum clearance programme. This is in addition to the replanning which must be constantly proceeding in an old town situated in the midst of a thriving industrial area.

The improvement of those houses which can be expected to remain in occupation for more than 15 years is a recent additional duty. This is now enlarged by the Housing Act, 1964, to enable improvement areas to be defined and systematic house improvement extended to include also the general amenities of the area selected. It is the Ministry's hope that this will be pursued vigorously so that a target of 2 million houses may be improved Nationally in ten years.

Working Conditions in Offices and Shops

Effective legislation for this purpose became operative in August 1964 so that 1965 is the first full year of operation. The number of new registrations obtained in 1965 indicates that about 10% of occupiers of shops and offices due to register have not done so. Indeed, the deficiency varies from 7 – 25% in the areas so far covered.

It has been found possible to combine the inspection of shops under this legislation with food hygiene in appropriate cases. Although this avoids the charge of inspectors following each other in and out of shops, progress is slower. The implementation of new

legislation is always slow because it is unfamiliar and careful explanations are necessary to those affected. No additional staff has been appointed for the purpose but consideration will have to be given to this if progress is to be quickened. Much remains to be done, but the town is being systematically covered by areas and at the present rate it will be about 1969 before we have a complete survey and a full assessment of the premises and problems involved.

Examination Successes and Promotions

It is again my pleasure to record in this section of the report an outstanding distinction to my deputy, Mr. E.A. Siggers, in being invited to assist the officers of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in connection with houses in multiple occupation in particular as well as generally in the public health inspectors' sphere of activity.

This Secondment was made possible by the willingness of the Committee to forego his service for twelve months in order that this unique experiment in co-operation between local and central government might be given expression.

The progressive thinking of the committee in this matter is greatly appreciated by the officers of the department who take modest pride in the selection and share with the committee the honour conferred on the authority.

Whilst acknowledging the eminence accorded to my deputy, I sincerely thank Mr. S.W. Hogg, Senior District Inspector, for his unstinted endeavours in the capacity of Acting Deputy as well as in his substantive post. The preparations necessary to the implementation of the West Midlands Order 1965 on 1st April 1966 were an added responsibility to which Mr. Hogg made a carefully reasoned and effective contribution.

We congratulate also Mr. J.G. Kelly on his appointment as Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent for the Borough of Chorley. Mr. Kelly joined the department in 1956 and devoted himself wholeheartedly to meat inspection, food hygiene and smoke control. He attained the office of President of N.A.L.G.O. in 1964 and left behind many friends and few enemies.

The year was a vintage year for examination successes. Two pupils Mr. D. Parish and Mr. K.B. Dorman qualified and were

immediately appointed to permanent posts. Three technical assistants, Mr. N.J. Fearn, Mr.W. Owen and Mr. D. Nelson obtained their Ordinary National Certificates in Building.

We applaud these successes and hope they will lead on to greater achievements in the future.

Mr. K.J. Bellmore transferred to the County Borough of Smethwick to act in a more senior capacity in the Cleansing department and we wish him well. He has given 24 years service to West Bromwich and his detailed knowledge of the town was valuable.

To offset these departures we are pleased to welcome Mr. D.G. Hunt from Meriden R.D.C. Mr. Hunt has had previous service with us and is doubly welcome on that account.

Also Mr. J. Greenhalgh as an authorised meat officer and Mr. S. Hunter on his promotion to Senior Cleansing Inspector.

In September, Mr. Michael Moore arrived from New South Wales, Australia, for three months intensive study of the duties and responsibilities of a public health inspector in the United Kingdom and in particular the working of the British Clean Air Act 1956. He became a firm friend of all who knew him and made a very acceptable contribution to the work of the department at a time when assistance was much needed.

Acknowledgements

Sincere thanks are due to the Transport Manager and his staff for their practical assistance in the maintenance of refuse collection vehicles.

To all the Chief Officers and Heads of Departments, a generous word of appreciation is readily given for assistance and advice whenever called for.

To Alderman Albert Green who has been my Chairman or Vice-Chairman for most of ten years I say a regretful au revoir, knowing that he intends to retire from the Council at the end of the current municipal year.

He has never spared himself in the service of the committee and has fearlessly upheld its officers whenever his support was needed. His guidance and experience has been invaluable and

his practical lessons will be remembered by all who were privileged to serve under him

To all other members of the committee, I accord my deep appreciation of their consistent support and confidence.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant

S. CAYTON

Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.

GENERAL HYGIENE

Description of the Area

West Bromwich, situated in the West Midlands conurbation, lies midway between Birmingham and Wolverhampton, and the A.41 road joins the three towns. The County Borough of Walsall lies to the North and Smethwick to the South. West Bromwich has a population of 98,040 in a total of about 2,500,000 in the West Midlands conurbation. A penny rate produced £17,000. Rateable value and population are growing steadily from year to year.

Meteorology

Climatological Station, Dartmouth Park – 543.3 feet above sea level.

	<u>1965</u>
Total rainfall	33.18"
Number of days on which rain fell	183
Reading of self registering thermometers (taken at 9 a.m. local time.)	

Degrees Fahrenheit

	<u>Max. in air.</u>	<u>Min. in air.</u>	<u>Total rainfall</u>	<u>Days on which rain fell</u>
January	42.7	34.98	3.13	19
February	43.05	34.2	.27	4
March	51.8	36.04	2.90	13
April	57.2	41.5	1.89	16
May	64.45	43.2	2.01	18
June	71.7	52.9	2.46	12
July	68.75	52.75	3.81	18
August	71.55	54.25	1.85	13
September	63.01	50.89	5.31	19
October	59.99	46.55	.67	7
November	46.24	36.2	3.13	21
December	47.19	37.21	5.75	23
			<u>33.18</u>	<u>183</u>

Inspections

The total number of inspections made during the year was 16,932.

The following is a summary of them:-

Inspections – Housing Acts (Slum Clearance, etc.)	3,960
„ Public Health and Housing Acts (Housing repairs)	1,666
„ Public Health Act (Caravans)	39
„ Food Premises (including Food Inspection) and Vehicles	1,598
„ Pest Control and Prevention of Damage by Pests Acts, 1949 (Inspections by Public Health Inspector)	548
„ Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963	380
Inspections – Rent Act, 1957 and Improvement Grants	83
„ Refuse Collection and Disposal and Public Conveniences	497
Re-inspections—Housing	807
Meat and Food Inspections—Visits to Slaughterhouses	3,307
Sampling Visits—Food and Drugs, Ice Cream and	
„ Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	220
„ Water and Washing-up Water	246
Air Hygiene and Factories—Factories Acts	126
Smoke Observations, industrial and general surveys, investigations of industrial and domestic nuisances, noise, deposit gauges and Smoke Control Areas.	3,093
Unfit Food, Food Poisoning and special Infectious Disease Investigation	362
	<hr/> 16,932 <hr/>

The total number of inspections is lower than in the previous year due to a greater emphasis on housing and food hygiene. These visits increased but since, in the main, they take longer than many of the other routine inspections, less time becomes available for the limited number of staff to carry out activities in other directions. Work was also commenced under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act which, because of its pioneering nature, is also time-consuming. Meat inspection continued to be a service which made great demands upon the inspectors' time and which because of its nature had to receive priority.

Complaints Received

609 complaints were received during the year, all of which were investigated and appropriate action taken.

Notices Served

The number of notices served under the Public Health Acts 1936 and 1961 during the year was 313. Of this number 56 were Informal Notices and 257 were Statutory Notices. The total number of houses concerned was 224.

During the year 118 notices under Section 26 of the Public Health Act 1961 were served. This is a procedure that can be followed in very urgent cases where unreasonably delay would be imposed by action under the nuisance sections of the Public Health Act, 1936. It has the advantage of allowing the Council to complete the urgent work in default of the owner without the delay that would be imposed by an application to court for a nuisance order.

Caravans

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

There are two licensed residential caravan sites in the Borough one privately owned accommodating eight caravans, and the other owned by the Council and accommodating 22 caravans. In addition, individual caravans are licensed for limited periods when needed for temporary occupation. The Act does nothing to assist us with the problem of the caravans operated by a certain class of mobile scrap metal merchants, and our procedure has been to remove them forcibly from the site. Where possible steps are taken to obstruct

access to the site. This is obviously not the solution to the problem and steps will have to be taken on an area or regional basis to provide sites.

There are also many caravans in the Borough occupied by workmen on the various building sites where the Corporation is engaged on the erection of new housing particularly at the site of the factory which is part of the Gilbert Ash Tracoba system of industrialised building.

Improvements Effected under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

As a result of action by the local authority under the Public Health and Housing Acts, 238 houses were repaired during the year.

Theatres and Cinemas

There are only five cinemas in the borough, all of which are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses within the borough.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Summary of Destruction of Rats and Mice 1965

	Local Auth- ority	Dwelling Houses including Council Houses	All other including business premises	Agri- cult- ural	Total of cols. 1,2,3 & 4
Number of properties in Local Authority's District	55	28,382	5,653	4	34,089
Number of properties inspected as a result of					
(a) notification	65	417	88	-	570
(b) Survey under the Act	-	-	-	-	-
(c) otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for small other purpose	-	-	-	-	-
Total inspections carried out including re-inspection	173	929	295	-	1,397
Number of properties insp- ected which were found to be infested by					
(a) Rats	40	358	68	-	466
(b) Mice	25	59	20	-	104
Number of infested properties treated by the local authority	65	417	88	-	570

Defective drainage systems are the cause of many of the infestations and often require further work by the public health inspectors. The treatment of rats in the sewers is an essential part of the campaign but during the year under review it was not possible to suspend surface treatment to allow this preventive work to be carried out.

Disinfestation

34 premises – including private houses, school and factory canteens were successfully disinfested using D.D.T., B.H.C. and Dieldrin.

We are quite often consulted with regard to the extermination of insects – including garden pests, and whilst we do not provide a general service to eradicate these pests we try to assist where the complainant is unable by infirmity or otherwise to follow our advice.

Ants and woodworm continue to be a problem in some houses, and bed-bugs, which previously seemed to be on the decline, are again causing many complaints.

In new corporation estates the sites have been landscaped by taking the grass surrounds right up to the buildings. This has produced a series of complaints of red mite in the houses or lower flats.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, and Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941.

The sale of poisonous substances is controlled by the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, and the Poisons List, made thereunder, and toxic substances are placed in either Part I or Part II of the list. In Part II of the list are included those poisonous substances which are in common use, such as ammonia, arsenical substances in the form agricultural and horticultural insecticides or fungicides, acids, rat poisons, certain disinfectants, hair dyes, caustic soda and caustic potash. When these articles under Part II are sold by a person who is not a registered pharmacist he must have his name entered upon the list of sellers of Part II poisons kept by the Council. 54 persons are so registered with the Council for this purpose. Registration is renewable yearly and a fee of 5/-d. is charged.

Hairdressers and Barbers

In West Bromwich hairdressers and barbers have had to be registered with the local authority since the passing of the West Bromwich Corporation Act, 1949. This enables all such establishments to be inspected before commencing business and it is a material factor in raising the standards of hygiene although regis-

tration cannot be refused and can only be removed by the Court. Byelaws are also in force requiring hygienic practices. Although there are 99 such premises registered in the Borough, the continued shortage of inspectors prevents routine supervision, but such information as we have suggests that systematic inspection and control is needed.

Pet Animals Act 1951; The Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963, and The Riding Establishments Act, 1964.

Under the provisions of these Acts, no person may keep a pet shop or an Animal Boarding Establishment unless he and the premises are licensed by the local authority. Licences are renewable each year and among the factors to be considered in granting a licence in any particular case are the suitability of the accommodation, the arrangements for feeding the animals, the precautions to be taken against the spread of infection and the adequacy of precautions against fire and other emergencies. This necessitates visits by the inspectorial staff in conjunction with the Fire Officer. Seven premises are licensed under the Pet Animals Act, two under the Animal Boarding Establishment Act, and one under the Riding Establishments Act.

WATER SUPPLIES

Water Sampling

48 water samples were taken in the course of the year, 3 for chemical analysis, and 44 for bacteriological examination.

The principal sources of drinking water in the Borough are from the City of Birmingham Water Department and the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company. There are also two houses supplied by a piped main spring, one house by a shallow well and one house by a shallow spring.

Swimming pools number 9 and are:-

Central Gala Baths – Artesian well, full purification system.

Harvills Hawthorne School – South Staffs. water with purification system.

Gorse Farm School – Birmingham water with full purification system.

Hallam Hospital – South Staffs. water, used on empty-fill system, with chemicals added by hand.

Shenstone Lodge

Residential School – South Staffs. water used on empty-fill system, with chemicals added by hand.

Millfields School – South Staffs. water with purification system.

Joseph Edward

Cox School – South Staffs. water with purification system.

Grove Vale

Junior School – South Staffs. water with full purification system.

Yew Tree

Junior School – South Staffs. water with full purification system.

All 21 samples from the swimming pools were satisfactory.

12 samples were taken from the new paddling pool at Dartmouth Park, 8 of which were unsatisfactory. An automatic chlorinator is to be fitted at the pool and should do much to correct this undesirable position.

The bacteriological samples of drinking water from mains supplies were satisfactory.

Results of the drinking water samples are given in the following tables :-

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

	South Staffordshire Waterworks Supply		Birmingham Water Dept. Supply
	Sample No. 7	Sample No. 9	Sample No. 27
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0	0	0
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.11	0.14	0
Chlorine in Chlorides	29.0	17.4	12
Nitrate Nitrogen	2.6	1.8	0.7
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 27°C in 4 hrs.	0.8	1.3	0.4
Total solids dried at 100°C.	360	340	35
Nitrate Nitrogen	0	0	0
pH	7.70	7.00	7.6
Free Chlorine	0.04	0.03	Absent
Radioactivity	Absent	Absent	Absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSES

Source.	Sample No.	Probable numbers per 100 m.l.		Total count per m.l.
		Coliform Bacilli.	Bact. Coli Type 1	
South Staffordshire Waterworks.	5	nil	nil	7
	7	nil	nil	2
	10	nil	nil	4
	14	nil	nil	12
Birmingham Water Department	6	nil	nil	1
	11	nil	nil	3
Wells and Springs	1	nil	nil	6
	2	nil	nil	0
	3		5	1
	12	nil	nil	1
	13		38	7

In the Borough 30,300 houses are supplied with a public water main direct to the houses and about 500 share taps or standpipes. All of the houses sharing water supplies are included in the Council's Slum Clearance Programme.

Sewage Disposal

Sewage disposal is by main drainage to the Ray Hall Sewage Works. There are 36 premises in the Borough using cesspools because they are distant from a main sewer or at an unsuitable level.

New Housing Accommodation

The number of houses and flats built by the Local authority in 1965 was :	752
The number of houses and flats erected by private enterprise in 1965 was :	374
Total	<u>1,126</u>

Housing Acts, 1936 – 1957 – Parts II and III

Slum Clearance

In continuation of the programme begun in 1955, 20 Clearance Areas involving 160 houses have been reported to the Council. 18 Demolition Orders and 6 Closing Orders have been made and 549 houses demolished.

During the year public local inquiries were held in respect of 22 areas comprising 430 houses. Objections were made on the grounds that 146 of these houses were not unfit. 17 Orders involving 437 houses were confirmed by the Minister with little or no modification.

Including the figures for 1965, a total of 218 areas have been reported to Council since 1955. These involved 5,048 houses which were dealt with by way of 101 Compulsory Purchase Orders and 30 Clearance Orders. During the same period 723 Demolition Orders and 116 Closing Orders were made bringing the total of unfit houses dealt with to 5,887. The majority of houses subject of Closing Orders have since been included in Clearance Areas.

TABLE 1

Summary of Action taken during the year 1965.

Clearance Area	Type of Order	Date represented	Date of Confirmation	No. of Houses	No. of persons to be displaced	Progress to end of 1965.	
						No. of houses demolished	No. of persons rehoused by Corporation
Dudley Street No. 3	C.P.O.	6.1.65	3.3.66	11	26		
Roebuck Street No. 1	C.P.O.	2.6.65		48	173		
Roebuck Street and Roebuck Lane No. 2	C.O.	2.6.65		19	52		
New Street (Hill Top) No 2.	C.P.O.	3.3.65		7	20		
Vale Street No 1	C.P.O.	8.9.65		23	65		
Hallam Street No 2	C.P.O.	8.9.65		23	55		
Dartmouth Street and Oak Lane No 1	C.P.O.	3.11.65		55	176		
Wood Lane and Claypit Lane No 1	C.P.O.	3.11.65		28	72		
Witton Lane No 1	C.P.O.	3.11.65		6	16		
Bromford Lane No 1	C.P.O.	8.12.65		8	16		
Bromford Lane No 2	C.P.O.	8.12.65		12	27		
Witton Lane No 1	C.O.	8.12.65		5	14		
Globe Street No 1	C.O.	8.12.65		4	12		
Vicarage Road No 1	C.P.O.	8.12.65		11	20		

Total 260 744

TABLE 11

(Individual Unfit Houses)

1965

Houses demolished	Demolition orders made	Closing orders made	Undertakings given under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1963, and Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957.
18	18	6	NIL

TABLE 111

Demolition of Houses

The total number of houses demolished during the year was as under :—

Houses in Clearance Areas	538
Houses subject to Demolition Orders	11
	<hr/>
	549
	<hr/>

As no programme of slum clearance can proceed without a parallel programme of house building to rehouse the displaced families the following statistics are included.

Not all the houses were in confirmed areas and allowances must be made for delays at the various stages of the formal processes from the report on fitness to the Committee to Confirmation of the Clearance or Purchase Order by the Minister.

TABLE IV

<u>Year</u>	<u>Houses Recommended for Demolition as unfit</u>	<u>Dwellings Built for W. B. C.</u>	<u>Families Rehoused</u>	<u>Persons Rehoused</u>
1960	877	410	388	1,258
1961	783	400	524	1,534
1962	580	711	676	1,996
1963	707	382	434	1,377
1964	638	516	633	1,962
1965	284	752	612	1,767
	<hr/> 3,869	<hr/> 3,171	<hr/> 3,267	<hr/> 9,894

Rent Act, 1957

Only 2 applications were made for certificates of disrepair and undertakings were given by landlords in both cases.

Standard & Discretionary Improvement Grants – Housing Acts 1959, 1961, 1964.

The responsibility for carrying out the provisions of this legislation has been in the past upon the Borough Surveyor's Department, but since April 1st. 1965, these duties were transferred to the Chief Public Health Inspector.

One of the reasons for transfer was due to the provisions of the 1964 Housing Act, enabling local authorities to set up improvement Areas. Although no progress can be reported in this field, it is however envisaged that in 1966 an area will be submitted for consideration.

During the year, 38 Standard Grants were approved, of which 17 were tenanted properties.

Housing Act, 1961

Common Lodging Houses, and Houses in Multiple Occupation

There are no registered common lodging houses in the town, but there are 250–300 houses in multiple occupation, occupied predominantly by families from the Caribbean Islands, India and Pakistan.

45 visits were made to such properties during the year mainly as follow-up visits to directions made under Section 19, Housing Act 1961, in the previous years. It is very clear that this problem is not one that is easily solved since both owners and tenants resent action being taken by the Local Authority, the owners because it means the expenditure of money or loss of income and the tenants because of the fear of eviction. Indeed the tenants very rarely complain of their conditions to the Department and, if they do so, it is usually because of a desire to be rehoused and not to improve their existing conditions.

Although there are no accurate figures available for such houses, our impression is that the numbers are fairly stable and this is mainly due to the restrictions in Commonwealth immigration. Conditions in the houses themselves are improving slowly as immigrants find their own accommodation away from the recognised areas of multiple occupation.

AIR AND FACTORY HYGIENE

Grit and dust from Cupolas

The total number of cold blast cupolas remains at fifty four and whilst most of these have arrester equipment for dust and grit there still remains a small number where emissions are direct to the atmosphere. The department is actively pursuing the situation and work is in progress on several cupolas to fit efficient means of grit and dust collection.

The area on the Western borders of the Borough has been quoted as having as high a concentration of foundries anywhere west of the Ural Mountains and with this type of industry currently enjoying a trade success, certain characteristic problems do arise. Cupolas are an essential part of foundry work and if excess pollution is to be avoided, arrester equipment must be provided. A survey has been started and it is proposed that effective means of arrestation be required to be fitted to all cupolas in operation to comply within the requirements of the Clean Air Act.

Iron Foundry Cupolas (Hot Blast Type)

(Cupolas in use six)

The responsibility of these cupolas rests with Her Majesty's Alkali Inspectors yet any immediate nuisance that is experienced often becomes the Local Authority's problem. Advanced design has been used in two of the plants yet troubles have on several occasions given rise to excessive emissions. Happily, the problems have the urgent attention of the firms concerned and Her Majesty's Inspectors and success of operation is being achieved while modification is being carried out on the plant.

New Furnaces

Notification of intention to install new furnaces during 1965 numbered 16 covering 29 furnaces.

All, except one gas-fired furnace, used oil as fuel.

Domestic Smoke Control

The following table sets out the progress made in smoke control as at 31st December 1965:-

Area	Acreage	Description	Properties		Position at 31.12.64
			Dwell- ings	Other	
1	25	Town Centre	191	58	(O) 1.11.58
2	37	New L. A. Estate	325	4	(O) 1.10.59
3	8	New Private Estate	56	-	(O) 1.10.59
4	14	New and existing Private Estate	85	1	(O) 1.11.59
5	37	Town Centre Extension	253	74	(O) 1.7.61
5 a		Dwellings previously exempted	3	-	(O) 1.10.63
6	50	Town Centre Extension	647	30	(O) 1.7.61
7	90	New Private and Existing mixed Est.	562	4	(O) 1.7.62
8	126	Town Centre Extension	1625	49	(O) 1.7.63
9	5	New L. A. Estate	54	1	(O) 1.7.62
10	860	Mainly Residential (P)	2246	51	(O) 1.7.64
11	40	Redevelopment Area	43	11	(O) 1.9.63
12	83	New L. A. Estate (P)	916	-	(O) 1.8.64
13	57	New Private Estate (P)	372	-	(O) 1.8.64
14	76	Residential Area (P)	434	24	(O) 1.9.65
15	11	Residential Area	100	-	(O) 1.7.66
	1519		7912	307	

(P) denotes Programmed Area
(O) denotes Operative

Smoke Control Areas

In spite of the general misconception that most atmospheric pollution is a direct result of industrial activity it remains a proven fact that domestic consumers contribute most to the undesirable concentration of sulphur dioxide and smoke in the air. An ordinary open fire is approximately 25% efficient and a lowering of the combustion efficiency results in a correspondingly high sulphur dioxide and smoke emission. Industry, by reason of economy and quality control in metallurgical processes, cannot allow inefficiency in firing and because of this emissions of smoke and sulphur dioxide must be avoided.

Dust and grit from metallurgical processes as has already been mentioned present the main problem and industry has a real contribution to make by equipping foundries with the best practical means of collecting grit from effluent gases.

The creation of a smoke control area by a Local Authority must only be regarded as the essential preliminary to clean air and the subsequent success depends on the co-operation of the people living within the area. The burning of smokeless fuels on approved appliances is unquestionably more efficient but a lasting worship of coal may make people reluctant to sample more up-to-date methods. The real benefit of a clean atmosphere will not be realised until all out towns become smoke-controlled areas, and as one of the first towns to declare such areas after the introduction of the Clean Air Act in 1956, West Bromwich should be one of the first to sample the atmospheric benefits of restricting the use of those fuels which produce pollution and those appliances which give rise to 'pollution' through inefficiency.

The co-operation of people in smoke-control areas to burn approved fuels is essential. Large amounts of money have been spent to further the course of smoke-control and any reluctance by householders to comply with the requirements of an Order should be dealt with without hesitation.

Clean Air Council

The Council has met on two occasions during the past year and both meetings were held by kind permission of Messrs. J. Brockhouse & Co. Limited, in their Victoria Works Social Club.

The Annual General Meeting was held on the 20th September 1965 with the election of the following officers:-

Mr. A.H. Hunter – Group Engineer (Messrs. J. Brockhouse & Co. Ltd.) – Chairman

Councillor J.C.R. Ashby – Vice Chairman

Mr. S. Cayton (Chief Public Health Inspector) – Press Secretary

Mr. G.W. Aston – Honorary Secretary-

The business part of the meeting was followed by the Chief Public Health Inspector's report on "Control of Air Pollution – Progress in West Bromwich" when he outlined progress to date in smoke control and gave details of the Corporation's proposals in this field.

Following this report a talk on oil burning was given by Mr. G. Myatt, Technical Manager, Heater Division of Messrs. J. Brockhouse & Co. Ltd. Mr. Myatt explained from basic principles the process of oil firing and illustrated his talk with reference to the blackboard and to a fully automatic burner which was available for the meeting.

The second meeting was held on November 29th when the representative of the West Midlands Gas Board introduced a most interesting film on natural gas – "Sahara Adventure". The Gas Board representative, Mr. R.H. Raybould, spoke on the technical problems that had to be overcome in harnessing this potentially important fuel and spoke encouragingly of the purity and the apparent abundance of these supplies.

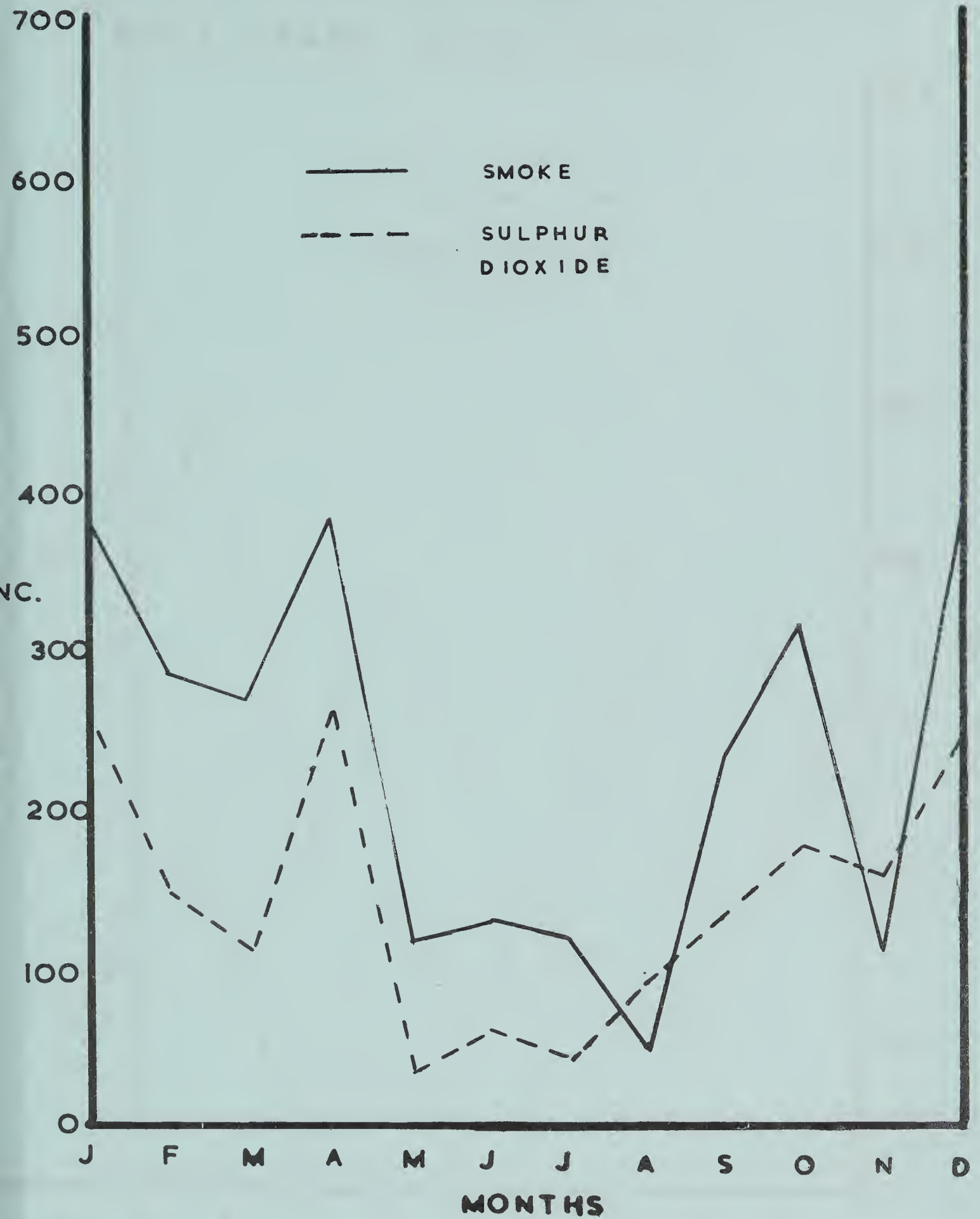
The West Bromwich Clean Air Council was formed in 1957, the year following the introduction of the Clean Air Act. The purpose of the Council is to bring together people who have a common interest in a clean atmosphere and who through constructive proposals can contribute materially to this cause. The Council has been well represented over the past nine years, but if it is to truly justify itself, more interest should be forthcoming from industry and particularly from industry within the enlarged West Bromwich. To this end a move to increase membership has been started and it is hoped that the new Clean Air Council will find strength in its numbers.

Measurement of atmospheric pollution

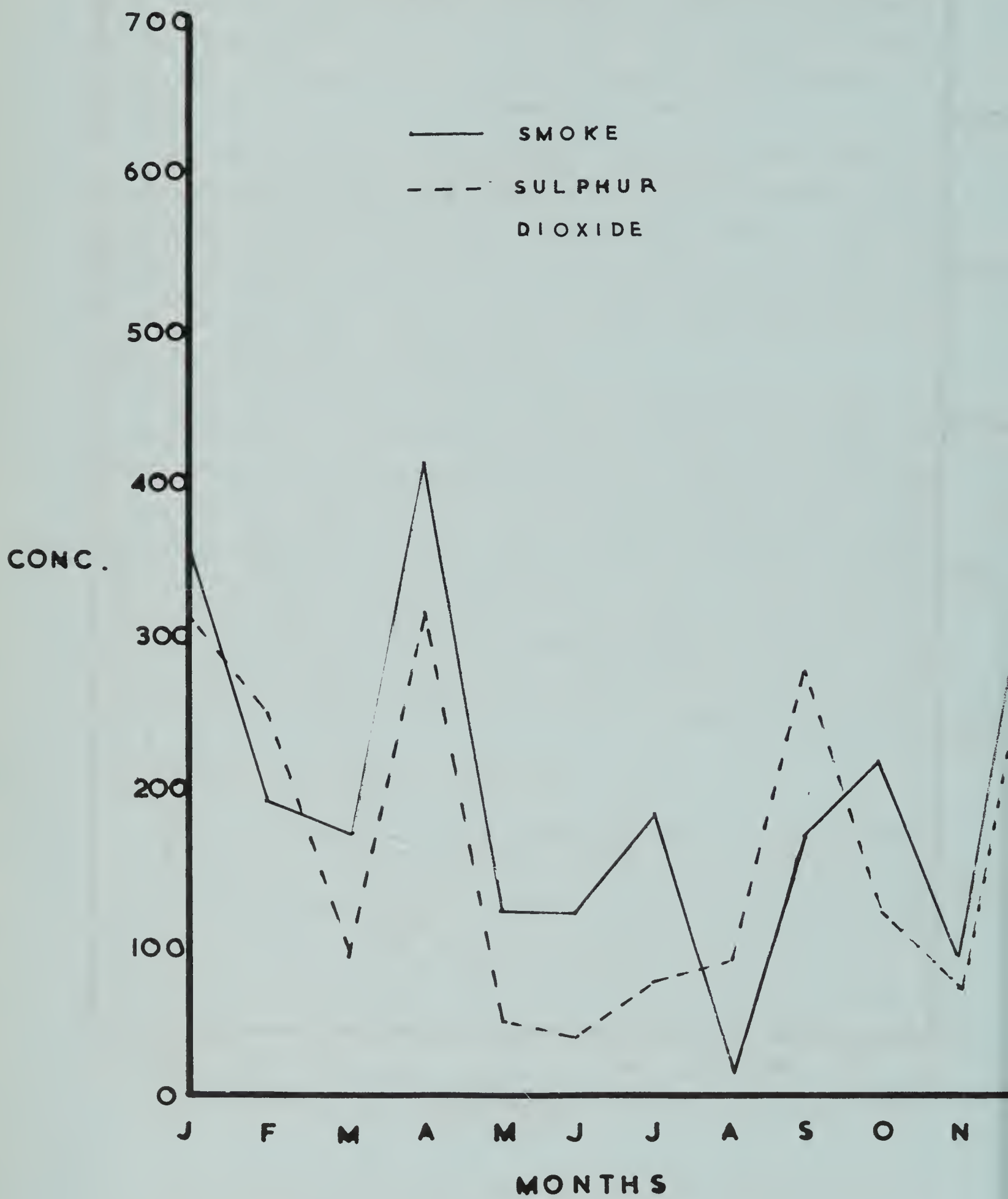
The measurement of smoke and sulphur dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere continued to be made at the five sites within the Borough and results are sent monthly to the Warren Springs Laboratory where the national survey of atmospheric pollution is being conducted. I am again grateful to the Welfare Committee, the Chief Constable of Staffordshire, the West Bromwich District Hospital Management Committee for their co-operation in making sites available and in particular to Messrs. Delta Die Castings Ltd., who willingly undertake the daily readings at their Greets Green Works.

The following graphs illustrate the monthly variations in smoke and sulphur dioxide concentrations.

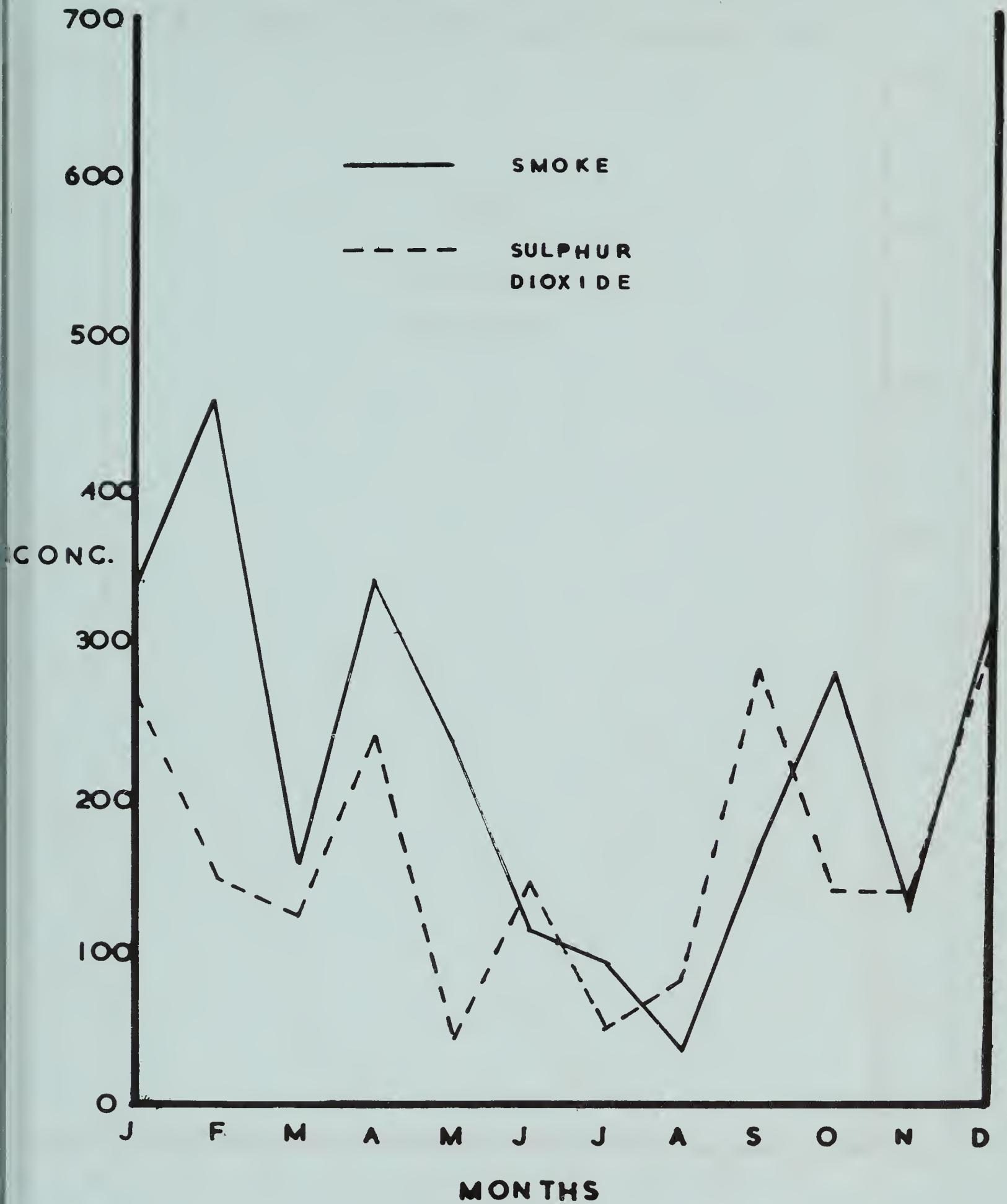
OFFICES LODGE ROAD



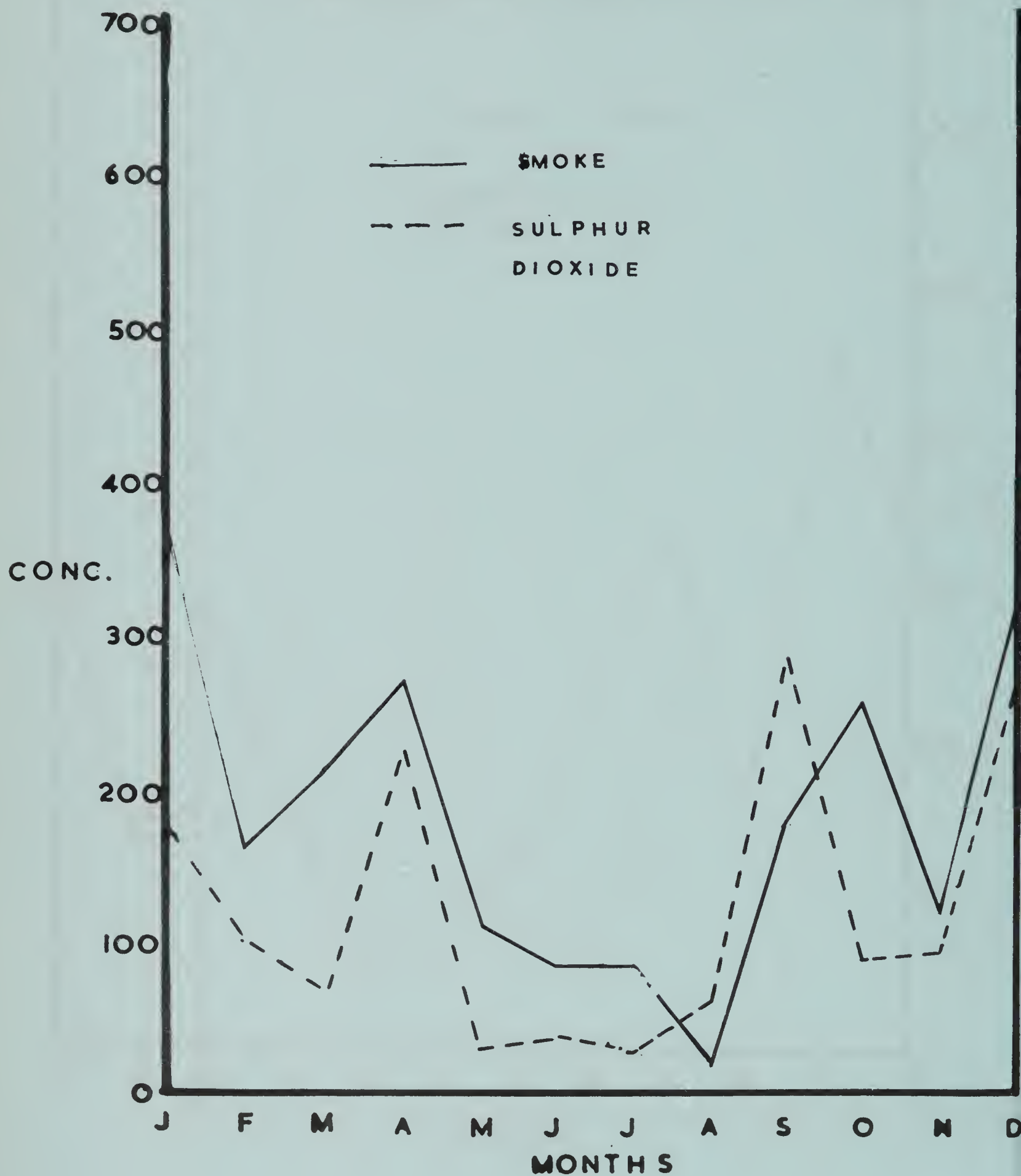
CHEST CLINIC HEATH LANE



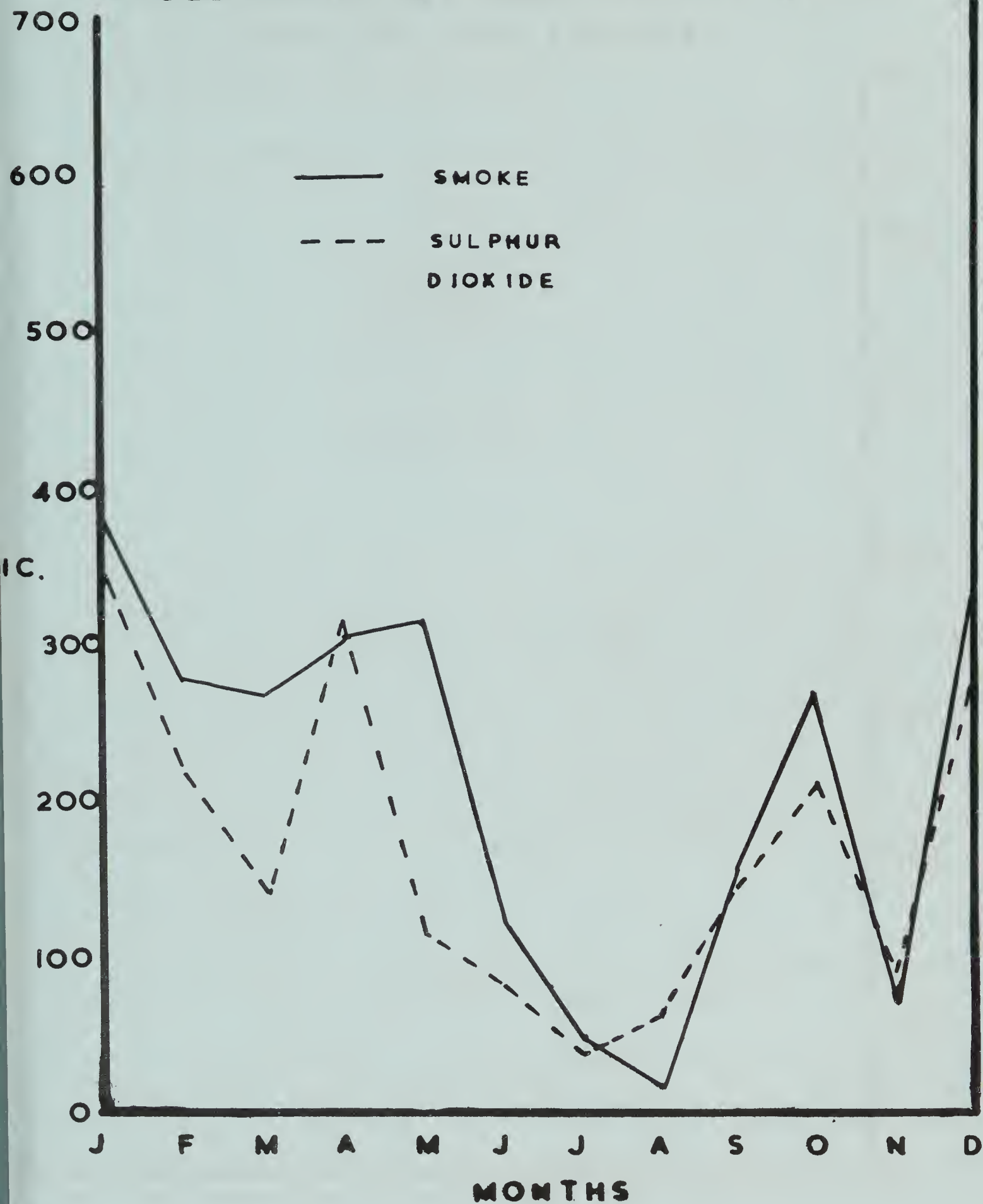
CENTRAL POLICE STATION HIGH STREET



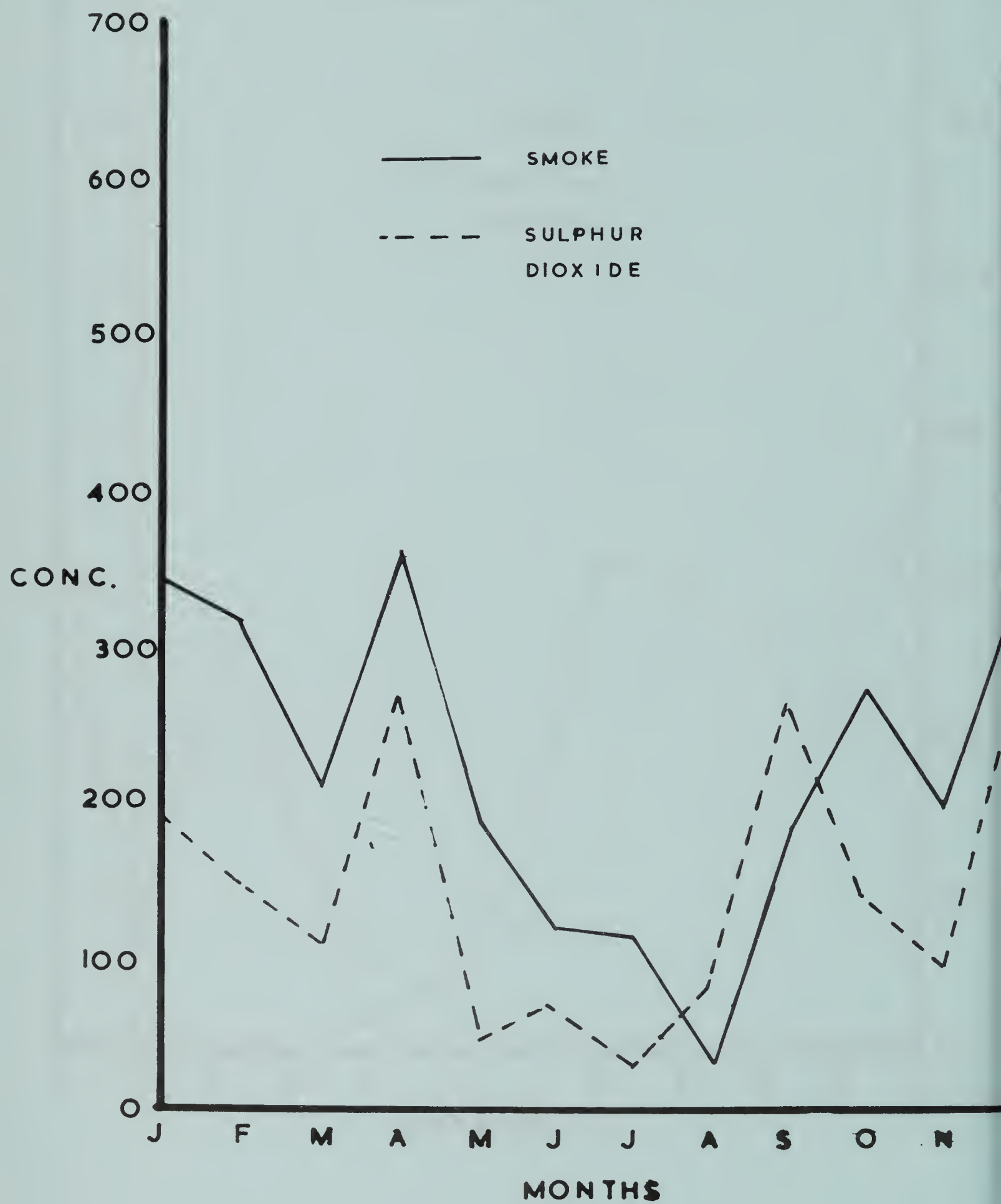
GREENSIDE HOUSE YEW TREE



DELTA DIECASTINGS GREET'S GREEN



AVERAGE ALL STATIONS



Alkali etc., Works Regulations Act 1906

Clean Air Act, 1956, Section 17

The Alkali etc. Works Order 1958

The number and type of works in the Borough for which the Alkali Works etc. Inspectorate is responsible is as follows:-

Chemical Manufacturers	2
Aluminium Works	4
Copper Works	3
Gas and Coke Works	1
Tar Works	1
Iron and Steel Works	5
Aldehyde Works	1
	<hr/>
	17

The Alkali Inspectorate is a highly qualified staff of chemical engineers consisting of a chief inspector, two deputies, twelve district inspectors and ten other inspectors. They are appointed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government to administer the various Alkali Acts and Orders. Because of the special technical difficulties associated with certain processes supervision is entrusted to this body. When the Hygiene and Cleansing Department becomes aware of a nuisance from one of these processes or registered works the Alkali Inspector for the district is informed.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

A number of complaints have been received by the department and in each instance effective informal measures were taken.

Industrial noise is presenting an increasingly difficult problem particularly where firms, through addition work, continue their processes through the night, or where larger and sometimes noisier machinery is installed. Noise control is a complicated study and the department has achieved notable success in dealing with several complaints considering its limited means.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Factories, Factories (no mechanical power) and workrooms.

1. Inspections for purpose of provisions as to health, made by members of the Department.

	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of written notices	No. of occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	1	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) to which section 7 applies.	437	126	27	-
3. Other premises under the Act (Excluding out worker premises)	13	5	-	-
TOTAL	451	131	27	-

Cases in which defects were found

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H. M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	35	23	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences	-	-	1	-
TOTAL	35	23	1	-

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

1. Registration and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year.	Total number of registered premises at end of the year.	Number of registered premises receiving general inspection during the year.
Offices	26	154	29
Retail Shops	40	486	86
Wholesale shops, warehouses	3	31	2
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens.	8	129	8
Fuel Storage Depots.	-	9	-

2. Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises: 380

3. Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Work Place

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	1658
Retail Shops	2843
Wholesale departments, warehouses	400
Catering establishments open to the public	848
Canteens	-
Fuel Storage depots	84
	<u>5833</u>
Total Males	2489
Total Females	3344

4. Contraventions :

In 96% of the total number of premises inspected written notices indicating unsatisfactory conditions were served. In many cases the defects listed were minor in detail but, three offices inspected were too small and their use will have to be discontinued when the section dealing with overcrowding becomes operative on the 1st August 1967.

The most commonly occurring offences related to the following matters :

1. First aid facilities
2. Temperature
3. Sanitary conveniences
4. Washing facilities
5. Cleanliness
6. Floors, passages and stairs

Most of the contraventions were rectified by informal actions and it was not necessary to institute legal proceedings.

5. Notification and Investigation of Accidents :

Sixteen accidents on registered premises were notified and one of these was investigated. Informal advice on accident prevention was given.

FOOD HYGIENE AND CONTROL

Slaughtering figures again show an increase on the previous year and now total over 260,000 animals of all kinds. Over the last five years there has been a consistent increase of about 30,000 each year and next year's figures, which will relate to a greatly increased Borough will probably be very much higher. The only areas of concentrated slaughtering comparable with West Bromwich have been amalgamated and the resulting concentration is likely to be greater than any other area of the country. Unfortunately, there is always a delay between the demand and the staff necessary to fill the demand. Slaughtering figures increase and the establishment then follows some months behind. In the meantime, the meat has to be inspected and staff has to be transferred from other sections with a consequent reduction in other activities.

Food Hygiene.

Visits to food premises increased from 868 in 1964 to 1958 in 1965 and is the result of the appointment of a specialised technical officer who came to us from the food trade. There was a great deal of work to be done in this direction and we now feel that something has been done to overtake the arrears. The list of food premises given is somewhat different from that of last year and is a result of the work undertaken by this officer. For many years the new list has been obtained by amending the old but in very many cases there is no obligation upon the person to inform us of the opening of a food premise or of its closing and consequently the figures become outdated. The new list is much more accurate and figures have been included giving the information as to hand washing and equipment washing facilities as suggested in Circular 1/66 of the Ministry of Health.

Food hawkers operating in the district now number 25. Control of such vehicles is effected by registration under the West Bromwich Corporation Act, 1949.

SUMMARY OF FOOD PREMISES

Premises	Total No.	Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960			
		Section 16		Section 19	
		Complied	Not Complied	Applicable	Complied
Grocers	118	116	2	55	55
Green Grocers	29	27	2	29	29
Grocers/Greengrocers	115	114	1	45	45
Wholesale Grocers	6	6	-	6	6
Multiple Stores	11	11	-	11	11
Confectioners incl. Sugar Confectionery	80	80	-	80	80
Bakehouses	9	9	-	9	9
Sugar Confectionery Manufacturers	2	2	-	2	2
Mineral Water Manufacturers	4	4	-	4	4
School Kitchens	22	22	-	22	22
Cafes, Restaurants, etc.	95	95	-	95	95
Fish Friers	45	45	-	45	45
Fish mongers	11	11	-	11	11
Butchers	75	75	-	75	72
Slaughterhouses	4	4	-	4	4
Brewers and Bottlers	1	1	-	1	1
Licensed Houses	162	162	-	162	162
Outdoor Beer Licences	27	27	-	27	27
Licensed Clubs	51	51	-	51	51
Miscellaneous Licences	14	14	-	14	14
Pickle Manufacturers	1	1	-	1	1

Not included above – Icecream Retailers including 2 soft icecreams
manufacturers : 191

Sausage and Cooked Meat Manufacturers: 15

Food Control.

72 samples of food were taken during the year of which 11 were unsatisfactory and details are given in the list. 165 swabs were taken of drinking glasses in 55 public houses, 87 swabs were taken of utensils in 29 cafes, 3 swabs were taken in school kitchens and 3 bottle rinsings were followed up until we were satisfied of the standard being reached. 12 samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological testing, 9 of which were grade 1 and the rest grade 2.

The amount of work carried out on food control is better than the previous year although the number of samples taken is too low for an authority the size of West Bromwich. The percentage of unsatisfactory samples may appear high but it must be borne in mind that we are looking for foods that we think might be unsatisfactory particularly where our sampling is restricted because of time or staff.

Bacteriological Swabs

TYPE OF PREMISES	PUBLIC HOUSES	CAFES	SCHOOL KIT-CHENS	MINERAL WATER MANUFACTUR-ERS
No. of satisfactory results i.e. less than 100 colonies per utensil	40	19	1	6
No. of unsatisfactory results i.e. more than 100 colonies per utensil	15	10	-	-
Total No. of swabs taken	55	29	1	6

	Samples Analysed	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
1st Quarter	1	Nil	1
2nd Quarter	11	10	1
3rd Quarter	18	12	6
4th Quarter	42	39	3
TOTAL	72	61	11

The percentage of unsatisfactory samples was 15.26% compared with 4.61% in 1964. The above table summarised the adulterated or unsatisfactory samples of food and drugs specified as follows:-

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>Contravention</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
53	Black Pudding	Contained foreign matter	The attention of the firm was drawn to the contravention, and appropriate measurers were subsequently taken.
111	Pork Sausage	Preservative sign not displayed	-do-
111A	Stewed Steak	Contained foreign matter	-do-
112	Pork Sausage	Preservative sign not displayed	-do-
115	Soft Drink	Unsatisfactory label	-do-
116	Soft Drink	Unsatisfactory label	-do-
117	Soft Drink	Unsatisfactory label	-do-
128	Currants	Contained foreign matter	-do-
132	Ice Cream	Low in standard	-do-
138	Kola Champaign Drink	Unsatisfactory label	-do-
148	Pork Sausage	Preservative sign not displayed	-do-

Meat Inspection .

As stated earlier slaughtering figures again increased. There was a reduction in the numbers of cattle and the whole of the increase is attributed to the increase in pigs. The total weight of meat found to be unfit was over 125 tons but taken over the whole kill it shows that the animals generally are of good quality.

The marking of carcase meat to indicate inspection and fitness for food is now firmly established and a service which was once "suffered" as a necessary, or unnecessary evil, now has commercial value as it affords a guarantee to the retail butcher and the housewife that the meat is wholesome and free from disease. This guarantee is, to a large extent, personal to the inspector who carried out the inspection though, of course, there is provision in the department's organisation for a second opinion in case of doubt. Since much slaughtering is carried out outside the normal working week it is little wonder that public health inspectors look forward to some restriction on the hours of slaughtering.

Legal Proceedings.

One case was taken during 1965 and concerned a piece of wire in a meat pie. The firm concerned obtained the pie from the manufacturer and an examination of both premises failed to reveal the source of the foreign body. The case against the retailer was dismissed but the manufacturers were fined £15/0/0d. with 25/-d. costs and also ordered to pay £15/15s./0d. costs to the retailers.

Carcase Inspected and Surrendered

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	19,215	165	3273	87882	149638
Number inspected	19,215	165	3273	87882	149638
ALL DISEASE EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses surrendered	5	10	62	76	338
Carcase of which some part or organ was surrendered	5,892	98	48	14573	41054
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	30.68	65.45	3.36	16.66	27.66
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcasses surrendered	1	-	-	1	13
Carcase of which some part or organ was surrendered	-	-	1	5	2317
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.005	-	.030	.007	1.55

Percentage of Food Animals with Tuberculosis

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Cattle (excluding cows)	0.35	0.13	0.02	-	.009	.005
Cows	1.87	-	0.16	0.13	-	-
Calves	-	-	-	-	-	.030
Pigs	2.77	1.66	1.35	0.69	0.84	1.55

Summary of Carcasses Inspected

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Cattle (excluding cows)	3,120	7,875	13,018	18,326	21,120	19,215
Cows	213	363	619	770	668	165
Calves	1,034	1,819	2,946	2,580	2,966	3,273
Sheep	22,170	56,037	65,572	83,443	93,155	87,882
Pigs	64,707	76,446	96,365	102,803	119,698	149,638
Totals	91,244	142,522	178,520	207,922	237,607	260,173

Total weight surrendered.

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs
1965 total	125	9	-	14
1964 total	87	5	2	19
1963 total	78	16	3	21
1962 total	58	5	2	24
1961 total	29	2	3	18
1960 total	35	7	1	14

Analysis of foods examined in premises other than slaughter-houses, and found to be unfit for human consumption.

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs
TINNED GOODS	2	15	1	6
MEAT	-	2	1	8
OTHER FOODS	2	9	2	18

Total weight surrendered in 1965.	5	7	1	4
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Total weight surrendered in 1964.	8	12	3	7
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Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.

All meat condemned by the food inspectors is stained in accordance with the Ministry's recommendation, at the source, and disposed of by the individual butchers concerned to approved collectors.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.

There are 40 slaughtermen licensed by the Council under the provisions of the above Act, all of whom are actively engaged in slaughtering in one or other of the registered slaughterhouses in the Borough.

The specialist inspectors observe the technical ability of both new applicants and trainee slaughtermen in order to assess their suitability as "fit and proper persons" to be licensed. The number of slaughtermen licensed varies little from year to year but the personnel change very considerably.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963.

Licences under these Regulations remain valid for a period of five years from 1965 and 138 dealers are registered in the Borough.

Ice Cream.

35 applications were received during the year under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, to sell ice cream.

The total number of premises now registered for the sale of ice Cream is 191 including 2 soft ice cream manufacturers.

Milk Supplies.

3 samples were taken for bacteriological examination and all were satisfactory.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963.

- (i) There are no pasteurisation plants in the Borough.
- (ii) No samples were submitted for analysis.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE

Salvage is part of the total amount of refuse arising in industrial, commercial and domestic premises and in the latter case must be collected and disposed of as a Rate Charge whether it can be sold or not. Analyses in the four quarters of 1965/6 show that the average paper content of domestic refuse in Birmingham was 32.55%, and what holds good for Birmingham is representative of West Bromwich also.

Tonnage of paper collected in 1965 = 2022 tons value £17,140.

Tonnage of paper collected in 1964 = 1278 tons value £11,026.

Although these figures tempt one to regard salvage as an end in itself the broader aspect must be kept in view. The weight of domestic refuse collected is rising at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ annually whilst volume increases at 6%. The effect of this is illustrated by the fact that the weight of a cubic yard of refuse has fallen from 5 cwts. in 1938 to 2.8 cwts. in 1962. This means that we need twice the carrying capacity in our fleet now compared with 1938. This need has been met by a planned programme of vehicle replacement but the trend is continuing. In the U.S.A. output of refuse per head per day is 4.5 lb. compared with 2.1 lb. in the United Kingdom. Britain is only a few years behind the U.S.A. in the growth of refuse production which may be accelerated by an increased demand for pre-packing and self-service. The increasing volume of refuse per household is at present being met by slightly larger bins formed in plastic which enables this to be done with a decrease in the dead weight to be carried because of the lighter material used in their construction. We are at or near the maximum bin size. Consequently, any increase in the volume of refuse may eventually have to be met by a twice weekly collection or by providing more bins per house.

With paper forming $\frac{1}{3}$ rd to $\frac{1}{2}$ of domestic refuse it is clear that the habit of segregating paper must be fostered as widely as possible amongst householders in order to enable it to be sold to defray the cost of the second collection, save disposal costs in the form of handling charges and space, and reduce the need to import new wood-pulp for packaging board which can be provided by home produced re-pulped waste paper.

The use of 19 trailers of 6 cubic yards capacity especially for paper is the beginning of a gradual progression towards the general provision of a high capacity van or similar vehicle to accompany the vehicle collecting the dirty and putrescible elements in refuse.

One such vehicle in operation is the Hamstead district with a compression vehicle and is justifying itself. The cost of operation is about £200 monthly and the average collection is 26 tons (of paper) worth about £250. Additionally, this vehicle is used to deliver replacement bins and perform miscellaneous minor duties as circumstances allow.

All other refuse collection vehicles throughout the Borough are being equipped with trailers and it is possible that the district showing the best recovery rate will also be provided with extra capacity in the form of an enclosed van.

Baling and Marketing Equipment.

All paper handling plant is concentrated at Black Lake and there is ample baling capacity for foreseeable needs though storage space for loose paper needs to be enlarged. Most of the staff employed are registered disabled persons or have been refuse collectors who have become unfit for the heavier work. This tends to produce a lower output per man than would be expected of a team of fit men and necessitates the extra holding space mentioned.

There are several considerations to be taken into account in assessing the financial aspects of salvage, particularly paper recovery, some of which are not immediately discernible but in total fully justify the organisation and effort involved.

Provision of Dustbins.

In 1951, West Bromwich accepted as a charge on the Rates the provision of a standard bin throughout the town by replacing all bins as they become unservicable. This system still operates and in all new development the first bin is provided by the owner and replacement is the responsibility of the Corporation. The result is that today practically every bin conforms to a British Standard specification as to weight, size and shape and this materially assists collection, simplifies replacement of worn and dangerous bins but the most important advantage is that it enables the department to experiment with new materials and vary the bin size if it seems advantageous.

In 1963 trials were commenced with a few hundred cheap plastic bins designed for the domestic market and available through iron-mongers and similar tradesmen. These are still giving satisfactory service and they encouraged us to co-operate with a local engineering concern of national repute in the manufacture of bigger and stronger plastic bins designed particularly for the needs of local authorities.

Successful trials with black plastic bins of 3¼ cu. ft. capacity in 1964 led us to recommend that no metal bins be bought in 1965 and it seems that in time these or paper sacks will gradually replace the metal bin not only in West Bromwich but nationally.

- (a) The number issued in 1965 was 3,228
- (b) Number of bins in use (approximately) 32,000
- (c) Average "life" of a bin 10 years

The total number of bins includes about 4,400 which are plastic and their useful "life" is as yet unknown.

There is evidence that bins are not lasting as long as formerly and one factor is the tendancy for new houses to be equipped with bins of poor quality which require replacement much earlier than the bins provided by the authority. Householders are encouraged to make their first purchase from the department for the sake of uniformity and economy.

The Size of Dustbins

In 1959/60 a full analysis of house refuse in Smoke Control Area No. 1 revealed that in the Winter and Spring quarters the weekly volume of refuse per house exceeded 2½ cubic feet which is the size of the bin. Even in the Autumn quarter it was 2.4 cubic feet so in designing the plastic bin the opportunity was taken to increase the size to 3¼ cubic feet in order to better accommodate the weekly output of refuse and avoid the necessity for two journeys to a house to collect "overflow" which tends to be prevalent after Bank Holidays and retards collection very considerably.

The larger bin in mild steel would have been considerably heavier and would have resulted in a significant increase in the dead weight to be carried to and fro to each house. The use of plastic material has made possible a bin of more adequate capacity of a total weight of 10lbs. compared with a metal bin of about treble the weight.

Disposal Site – Plant:

- 1 – Caravan/Mess Hut – placed in service November, 1959.
- 1 – 955 Traxcavator – placed in service April, 1962 (Marsh Lane)
- 1 – 955 Traxcavator – placed in service September, 1963 (Newtown)

These are 100 h.p. machines and together they handle a large volume and weight of miscellaneous waste exceeding 4,000 tons weekly. Each driver has one assistant and together they are responsible for each tip.

Public Conveniences.

Situation :	Erected :	Accommodation Provided	
		Male	Female
Library, High Street	1906	3 w.c.'s	-
Dartmouth Square	1908	3 „	5 w.c.'s.
All Saints	1939	3 „	4 „
Hill Top	1951	3 „	4 „
Stone Cross	1951	3 „	4 „
Scott Arms	1951	1 „	2 „
Carters Green	1956	4 „	6 „
Birmingham Road	1960	4 „	6 „
Gregory Street	1965	4 „	4 „

The conveniences at the Library, High Street, is below ground and worn out. The Committee hopes to replace it with a suitable building above ground with toilet facilities for both men and women as soon as a suitable site can be found.

Recruitment of Labour.

The labour turnover during the year was similar to our experience in 1964. Out of 85 men employed on 1st January, 1965 as drivers, refuse collectors and salvage labourers, there were still 73 employed on 31st December, 1965.

The following table shows the number of men employed on December 31st and their age groups.

Age Groups	18-21	4
	22-30	22
	31-40	13
	41-50	29
	51-60	13
	61-65	4
		<hr/>
		85
		(Including 17 drivers)
		(2 employed by Transport Dept.)

MONTHLY STATISTICS OF TIME LOST DUE TO SICKNESS, ACCIDENTS AND CASUAL ABSENCE 1965

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Days lost												
(a) Sickness / Accident	245	315	345	212	156	123	178	151	146	164	149	130
(b) Casual Absence	118	84	73	69	79	34	58	36	88	96	82	49
Average Strength of Section *	100.5	101.5	103.0	102.0	101.0	104.0	107.0	110.0	109.0	109.0	107.0	106.5
Number of working days in month	22	20	23	22	21	22	22	19	23	21	22	20
Possible number of man/days for month	2211	2030	2369	2244	2121	2288	2354	2090	2507	2289	3354	2130
Percentage Loss												
(a) Sickness	11.13	15.25	15.0	63.9	7.47	5.59	8.09	7.94	6.34	7.8	6.77	6.5
(b) Casual Absence	5.36	4.2	3.17	3.13	3.76	1.54	4.86	1.89	3.82	4.57	3.72	2.45
Percentage Total Loss	16.49	19.45	18.17	12.76	11.23	7.13	12.95	9.83	10.16	12.37	10.49	8.95
*Includes cleaners for Public Conveniences and One Rodent Operative												

Average Monthly Loss %		1962	1963	1964	1965
(a) Sickness and Accidents		6.29%	8.12%	7.26%	8.96%
(b) Casual Absence		2.59%	2.74%	3.39%	3.54%

Area	7,172	acres
Population	98,040	
Total number of premises from which refuse was collected	31,000	
Weight per 1,000 population per day	17.2	cwts
Total tonnage (est.)	31,000	
Premises from which collections are made at least once weekly	100%	
Average haul, single journey to final disposal point	2.5	miles
Total refuse disposed of (estimated)	260,000	tons
Methods of disposal – controlled tipping	100%	

RECOVERY OF WASTE AND DORMANT MATERIALS

The total tonnage of waste materials salvaged during the year and the income received is as follows:-

	Tons	Cwts	Qtrs	Lbs.	£	S	D
Waste paper (various grades)	1,743	12	1	-	17,261	17	7
Baled Ferrous Scrap	236	11	1	-	1,682	18	8
		5	-	3	18	15	4
	11	19	2	-	151	5	3
					63	8	6
	<u>2,092</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>£19,178</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5-4</u>

The total salvage collected and income received from 1955 to 1965 was as under:-

	Tons	Cwts	Qtrs	Lbs	£	S	D
1955	444	6	2	-	3,657	4	7
1956	838	7	-	26	7,154	8	-
1957	988	16	3	7	8,414	5	2
1958	1,224	5	3	22	10,455	19	10
1959	1,423	15	2	2	11,638	14	5
1960	1,621	18	1	8	13,680	-	10
1961	1,501	12	3	3	12,958	13	8
1962	1,414	11	2	5	11,538	11	8
1963	1,171	2	3	-	9,581	16	10
1964	1,616	8	3	19	13,480	12	10
	<u>2,092</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>19,178</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>14,337</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>£121,738</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>2</u>

Public Cleansing Costings

The national figures of cleansing costs published by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government reveal the following information:-

	1957/ 58	1958/ 59	1959/ 60	1960/ 61	1961/ 62	1962/ 63	1963/ 64
Average Cost per 1,000 premises in County Boroughs for refuse coll- ection and disposal.	£ 2,115	£ 2,193	£ 2,209	£ 2,352	£ 2,569	£ 2,740	£ 2,871
Average Cost per 1,000 premises in County Boroughs with population 50-100,000 for refuse collection and disposal	2,089	2,140	2,174	2,281	2,485	2,660	2,806
Average Cost per 1,000 premises for West Bromwich for refuse collection and disposal.	2,240	2,138	2,176	2,166	2,456	2,435	2,616

Assuming 30,000 premises from which collections are made in West Bromwich the cost is about one shilling weekly including the cost of providing bins.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Staff of the Hygiene and Cleansing Department	1-3
Foreword	4-10
<u>General Hygiene</u>	11-20
Description of Area	11
Meteorology	11
Inspections	12
Complaints Received	13
Notices Served	13
Caravans	13
Improvements effected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	14
Theatres and Cinemas	14
Common Lodging Houses	14
Destruction of Rats and Mice 1965	15
Disinfestation	16
Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, and Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941	16
Hairdressers and Barbers	16
Pet animals Act, 1951	17
Water Supplies	18-20
Swimming Baths	18
Water Sampling	18
Table of Chemical Analysis	19
Table of Bacteriological Analysis	20
Sewage Disposal	20
<u>Housing</u>	21-25
New Housing Accommodation	21
Slum Clearance	21
Slum Clearance - Summary of Action	22
Individual Unfit Houses	22
Demolition of Houses	23
Progress of Rehousing	23
Rent Act, 1957	23
Improvement Grants	24
Common Lodging Houses and Houses in Multiple Occupation	24
<u>Air and Factory Hygiene</u>	25-34
Grit and Dust from Cupolas	25
Iron Foundry Cupolas	25
New Furnaces	25

Domestic Smoke Control	26
Smoke Control Areas	26
Clean Air Council	27
Measurements of atmospheric pollution	28
Graphs showing Concentrations of Deposits from Volumetric Apparatus	29–34
Alkali etc., Works Regulations Act	35
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	35
Factories Act, 1961	36–38
Contraventions	38
Notification and Investigation of Accidents	38
<u>Food Hygiene and Control</u>	39–46
Food Hygiene	39
Summary of Food Premises	40
Food Control	41–42
Bacteriological Swabs	41–42
Meat and Food Inspection	43
Legal Proceedings	43
Carcases Inspected and Surrendered	44
Percentage of Food Animals affected with Tuberculosis	44
Summary of Carcases Inspected	44
Total weight surrendered	45
Method of Disposal of Condemned Food	45
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958	45
The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963	46
Ice Cream	46
Milk Supplies	46
The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963	46
<u>Public Cleansing and Salvage</u>	47–54
The Collection and Disposal of Refuse	47–48
Baling and Marketing Equipment	48
Provision of Dustbins	48–49
The Size of Dustbins	49
Disposal Site – Plant	50
Public Conveniences	50
Recruitment of Labour	50–51
Table of Absenteeism	52
House Refuse Collection and Disposal – Operational Statistics	53
Recovery of Waste and Dormant Materials	53
Public Cleansing Costings	54